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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1938



Borough of Epsom & Ewell,
Dorking and Leatherhead Urban,
and Dorking & Horley Rural Districts

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MUNICIPAL OFFICES ANNEXE,
14, WATERLOO ROAD,
EPSOM.

June, 1939.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committees of the Borough of Epsom and Ewell, of the Urban Districts of Dorking and of Leatherhead, and of the Dorking and Horley Rural District.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you an Annual Report upon the health of each of the above-mentioned districts, which combine for the purpose of the provision of a whole-time Medical Officer of Health. The report is arranged in accordance with the suggestions contained in Circular 1728 of the Ministry of Health. The total area of the combined districts is 82,843 acres, with a total estimated population at mid-year 1938 of 118,720.

Reference to the figures in the Report, some of which are summarised on page 4, indicate that healthy conditions continue to prevail in the various districts.

I have to acknowledge the helpful and conscientious service of all members of the Health Departments and the co-operation of the chief officers of the Councils. I am grateful also to the Chairmen and members of the Committees with whom my work is particularly connected for their continued support and consideration.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CYRUS IVE,
Medical Officer of Health.

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH RATES, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1938.

DISTRICT.	Rate per 1,000 total population.		Annual Death Rate per 1,000 population								Rate per 1,000 live births.	
	Live Births.	Still Births.	All Causes*	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under two years)	Total deaths under 1 year.
England & Wales	15.1	0.60	11.6	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.01	0.03	0.07	0.11	5.50	53.0
Dorking U.D.	14.6	0.35	10.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.00	4.01	48.19
Borough of Epsom and Ewell	15.10	0.50	6.07	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.05	6.63	39.78
Leatherhead U.D.	15.11	0.24	7.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.00	9.38
Dorking & Horley R.D.	14.72	0.78	9.7	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.15	3.31	49.67

* The district death rates (all causes only) have been adjusted by an areal comparability factor to eliminate variations in rates due to difference in population constitution.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

DISTRICT.	Rate per 1,000 total births.		
	Puerperal Sepsis.	Other puerperal causes.	Total.
England and Wales	0.89	2.19	3.08
Dorking U.D.	0.00	7.84	7.84
Borough of Epsom and Ewell	1.07	2.14	3.21
Leatherhead U.D.	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dorking & Horley R.D.	0.00	0.00	0.00

DEATH RATES FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

DISTRICT.	Rate per 1,000 population.		
	Pulmonary tuberculosis.	Non-pulmonary tuberculosis.	All forms.
England and Wales	0.53	0.10	0.63
Dorking U. D.	0.23	0.06	0.29
Borough of Epsom and Ewell	0.27	0.00	0.27
Leatherhead U. D.	0.28	0.00	0.28
Dorking & Horley R. D.	0.24	0.09	0.33

DORKING URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health:

CYRUS IVE, M.B., B.S.(Lond.), M.R.C.S.(Eng.), L.R.C.P.(Lond.),
D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector:

D. ALLAN, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.,
Certificated Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

Clerical Staff:

K. G. BEWICK, Cert.S.I.B., and P. HUNT,
Clerical Assistants to Medical Officer of Health.
D. S. BATES, Clerk to Sanitary Inspector.

(The Medical Officer of Health and his clerical assistants act in a similar capacity for the Borough of Epsom and Ewell, the Urban District of Leatherhead and the Rural District of Dorking and Horley.)

DORKING URBAN DISTRICT

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1938

1.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,511
Population (Census 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,204
Population (estimated mid-year 1938)	...	...	...	...	...	...	17,110
Density (persons per acre)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.8
Number of private families or separate occupiers (Census 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,051
New houses certified 1938	...	...	...	...	...	...	124
Number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Books at 31st December, 1938	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,868
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£189,186
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£728

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>		
Live Births—					
Total	249	128	121	} Birth Rate	14.6
Legitimate	244	126	118		
Illegitimate	5	2	3		
Still Births—					
Total	6	3	3	} Rate per	1,000 total
Legitimate	6	3	3		
Illegitimate	—	—	—		
Deaths (net)	203	93	110	Crude death	
				Rate	11.9

Deaths from Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	...	2
Total deaths of infants under one year of age	...	...	...	...	12
Death rate of infants under one year of age—					
All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	48.19
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	45.08
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births...	...	...	...	...	200.0
Deaths from—					
Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	Nil
Whooping cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	Nil
Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	...	...	...	...	1

Table I shows a comparison of vital statistics of the Dorking Urban District from the year 1881 to the present time with those for England and Wales during the corresponding period.

TABLE I.

Period.	Average Annual Birth Rate per 1,000 living. (Annual Rates 1931—1938)		Average Annual Crude Death Rate per 1,000. (Annual Rates 1931—1938)		Average Annual Infant Mortality Rate.† (Annual Rates 1931—1938)	
	England & Wales.	Dorking U.D.	England & Wales.	Dorking U.D.	England & Wales.	Dorking U.D.
1881—1890	32.4	26.8	19.1	14.9	142	82
1891—1900	29.9	22.1	18.2	14.4	153	92
1901—1910	27.2	21.6	15.4	14.2	128	86
1911—1920	21.8	16.5	14.4*	13.2*	100	70
1921—1930	18.3	16.0	12.1	13.0	72	46
1931	15.8	13.3	12.3	12.6	66	45
1932	15.3	13.1	12.0	12.6	65	15
1933	14.4	15.1	12.3	12.4	64	28
1934	14.8	13.2	11.8	11.4 (9.6)	59	14
1935	14.7	16.1	11.7	11.0 (9.2)	57	49
1936	14.8	16.4	12.1	13.4 (11.2)	59	47
1937	14.9	14.0	12.4	11.0 (9.2)	58	21
1938	15.1	14.6	11.6	11.9 (10.0)	53	48

† *i.e.*, Deaths of children under one year of age per 1,000 births.

* Including civilian mortality only from 1915—1920.

The death rate figures in parentheses have been adjusted by the “areal comparability factor” (See page 8).

BIRTHS.

The total live births accredited to the area by the Registrar General were 249, of which 128 were of males and 121 of females. This total represents a live birth rate of 14.6 per thousand of the estimated resident population, compared with the rate of 15.1 for England and Wales as a whole. The still-birth rate for the year is 0.35 compared with 0.60 for England and Wales.

DEATHS.

The deaths accredited to the area after correction for inward and outward transfers were 203, of which 93 were of males and 110 of females. This represents a crude death rate of 11.9 per thousand of the estimated resident population, compared with the rate for the whole Country of 11.6.

In order that the mortality of the district may be properly compared with the mortality for England and Wales, however, it is necessary to eliminate differences caused by variation in the composition of the two populations as regards age and sex. For this purpose an areal comparability factor is supplied by the Registrar General, and when this is applied to the crude death rate of the district an adjusted death rate of 10.0 per thousand is obtained. This compares favourably with the death rate for England and Wales, and is good evidence of the healthy conditions prevailing in the area.

The causes of death are set out in Table II.

INFANT MORTALITY.

The deaths of infants under one year of age numbered twelve. The infant mortality rate for the year is 48.19 per thousand live births, compared with the rate for England and Wales of 53.

TABLE II. CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE DORKING URBAN DISTRICT.

<i>Cause of Death.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—
2. Measles	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria	1	—	1
6. Influenza	—	—	—
7. Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
8. Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—
9. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	2	4	6
10. Other Tuberculosis	—	—	—
11. Syphilis	—	—	—
12. General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	—	—	—
13. Cancer, Malignant Disease	10	13	23
14. Diabetes	1	2	3
15. Cerebral Haemorrhage	4	5	9
16. Heart Disease	21	19	40
17. Aneurysm	2	—	2
18. Other Circulatory Diseases	15	20	35
19. Bronchitis	5	7	12
20. Pneumonia (all forms)	5	3	8
21. Other Respiratory Diseases.....	1	1	2
22. Peptic Ulcer	—	—	—
23. Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	1	—	1
24. Appendicitis	1	—	1
25. Cirrhosis of Liver	1	—	1
26. Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	1	—	1
27. Other Digestive Diseases	1	3	4
28. Acute and Chronic Nephritis	1	2	3
29. Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—
30. Other Puerperal Causes	—	2	2
31. Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	3	5	8
32. Senility	2	7	9
33. Suicide	2	—	2
34. Other Violence	8	2	10
35. Other defined Diseases	5	15	20
36. Causes ill-defined or unknown	—	—	—
Special causes (included in No. 35 above) :			
Smallpox	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Polioencephalitis	—	—	—
All causes	93	110	203

2.—GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) GENERAL NURSING.—The Dorking Queen's District Nursing Association employs a nurse for general nursing in Dorking Town and the Dorking Benefit Nursing Association employs two nurses for midwifery

work in the same area. This Association also undertakes both general and midwifery nursing in North Holmwood and Mickleham. Brockham is covered for both branches of nursing by the Brockham Nursing Association and midwifery work is also undertaken in this Parish by the Betchworth Nursing Association. Boxhill is included for district nursing with the Walton-on-the-Hill Nursing Association.

(b) NURSING OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.—There is no provision for the nursing of cases of measles or other infectious disease.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Specimens taken by medical practitioners are sent for bacteriological examination to the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine in London, or to Dr. L. P. Chamberlain, Pathologist to the East Surrey Hospital and the Dorking & District Hospital.

During the year 1938 the number of examinations made was as follows—

For the diagnosis of Diphtheria	...	...	...	21
„ „ „ „ Tuberculosis	...	...	...	12
„ „ „ „ Enteric Fever	...	...	...	18

Laboratory examinations required to establish the diagnosis of suspected venereal disease in a communicable stage are arranged for under the Surrey County Council's Venereal Diseases Scheme. Samples of milk, food and potable water are sent to the Counties Public Health Laboratories in London.

HOSPITALS.

The Council's Isolation Hospital is situated in Logmore Lane, Westcott. The permanent buildings consist of an administrative block and a ward block, which contains two wards of equal capacity of about 15,000 cubic feet, a brick building containing mortuary, laundry, disinfectant, coal shed; an ambulance shed; and a caretaker's cottage.

There are, in addition, two ward blocks of corrugated iron, each containing two wards of a capacity of about 4,000 cubic feet each, and, in one, an additional room of 1,000 cubic feet. The total accommodation is for 38 patients.

The regular nursing staff consists of a Nurse-matron and two nurses. Temporary nurses are engaged when necessary. In the past year 17 patients were admitted to the hospital.

Cases of smallpox occurring in the district are admitted to the Surrey Smallpox Hospital, which is maintained by the Surrey County Council at Clandon.

The Surrey County Council is responsible for the provision of institutional treatment for persons suffering from Tuberculosis. The majority of patients with tuberculosis of the lungs are admitted to Milford Sanatorium, but other accommodation is available in public assistance hospitals and elsewhere.

The Dorking & District Hospital, Tower Hill, is a voluntary hospital, containing 32 beds and a children's ward, and admits general medical and surgical cases at a small weekly charge.

The Dorking County Hospital, situated in Horsham Road, is maintained by the Surrey County Council, and has accommodation for 191 patients.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(1) **INFECTIOUS DISEASE.** Cases of infectious disease are removed in the motor ambulance maintained by the Council and stationed at the Isolation Hospital.

(2) **NON-INFECTIOUS AND ACCIDENT CASES.** The Council maintains two motor ambulances, one a Morris 15.9 h.p. Ambulance with two stretchers and necessary equipment, and the other an Austin 20 h.p. Ambulance fitted with two stretchers and equipment, heating apparatus, flood lights, wash basin, resuscitation apparatus, and all the necessary equipment. The ambulances are garaged at the Fire and Ambulance Station (telephone Dorking 2729) and two resident drivers are available at all hours of the day and night.

These Ambulances are available for cases of street accidents or illness, or for private use, but not for cases of an infectious character.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

The following Clinics and Treatment Centres are provided by the Surrey County Council at the Clinic in Dene Street, Dorking—

Tuberculosis Dispensary	.....	.....	1st and 3rd Thursdays at 10 a.m.
Maternity and Child Welfare	.....	.....	Monday and Tuesday afternoons, 2—4 p.m.
Ante-natal Clinic	.....	.....	2nd and 4th Thursdays, 9.30 a.m.—12 noon.
Eye Clinic	.....	.....	1st Friday, 9.30 a.m.—12 noon.
General Medical Clinic	.....	.....	Tuesdays, 9.30 a.m.—12 noon.
Dental Clinic	.....	.....	Mondays, 9.30 a.m.—12 noon. Wednesdays, 1.45—4 p.m. Fridays, 9.30 a.m.—12 noon, and 1.45—4 p.m.
M. & C.W. Dental Clinic	.....	.....	2nd and 4th Thursdays, 1.45—4 p.m.

In addition clinics for immunisation against diphtheria are held under the auspices of the Urban District Council in collaboration with the Surrey County Council at the Dene Street Clinic on the first Wednesday in each month at 10 a.m.

There is no clinic in the District provided under the Surrey County Council's Venereal Diseases Scheme. Patients attend such clinics at the East Surrey Hospital, Redhill, the Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford, or certain of the London Voluntary Hospitals.

3.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

There has been no evidence during the year that any illness in the district has been attributable to the consumption of water.

There are two companies which undertake the supply of water in the district. Mickleham, Boxhill and Brockham are supplied by the East Surrey Water Company, and the remainder of the area by the Dorking Water Company.

The bulk of the water supplied by the East Surrey Water Company is obtained from borings into the chalk at Purley, Kenley, and Leatherhead. Before distribution it is softened by the addition of lime, and chlorinated and dechlorinated after an adequate period of contact. The methods of purification in use are adequate to deal with any possible pollution which might occur.

For the greater part of the year the Dorking Water Company made use of two sources of supply. The first, which is still in use, consists of a series of fifteen wells at Dorking, the boreholes extending to a depth of 130 feet into the Folkestone beds, from which the water is siphoned to a reservoir situated at the works and from there is pumped to the service reservoir. This water receives no treatment before distribution.

The second source, upland surface water which discharged into covered reservoirs at Mags Well, Westcott, was discontinued in December, 1938, as bacteriological samples taken both by the Council and the Water Company indicated that some pollution, which, however, could not be traced, was gaining access to the supply.

The whole of the district is now supplied from the wells at Dorking.

Chemical and bacteriological examinations of the water are made by the Companies and by the Council.

Particulars of reports on typical samples of water are reproduced below.

DORKING WATER COMPANY. RESULTS.

<i>Chemical</i>						<i>Parts per 100,000</i>
Appearance	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Clear and bright.
Colour	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Normal
Odour	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Reaction pH	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Neutral 6.7
Free Carbonic Acid	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.9
Electric Conductivity at 20°C	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	350
Total solids dried at 180°C	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23.5
Chlorine in Chlorides	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.1
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.5
Hardness : Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	14.0
Temporary	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7.5
Permanent	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.5
Nitrogen in Nitrates	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.56
Nitrites	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Absent
Free Ammonia	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.0000
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.0000
Albuminoid Ammonia	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.0008
Albuminoid Nitrogen	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.0000
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 80°F	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.025
Iron	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.005
Zinc, etc.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Absent

<i>Bacteriological</i>	<i>Parts per 100,000</i>
Number of bacteria growing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in one day at 37°C	1
Number of bacteria growing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in two days at 37°C	1
Number of bacteria growing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in three days at 20°C	7
The Bacillus Coli : Present in	Absent in 100 c.c.
Bacillus Welchii (B. enteritidis sporogenes) : Present in	Absent in 100 c.c.

Report.

This sample is clear and bright and of normal colour. The water is approximately neutral in reaction, of moderate hardness, contains no excess of saline or mineral matter in solution and no metals apart from a negligible trace of iron.

The water is of satisfactory organic and bacterial purity, and is considered pure and wholesome in character, suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

EAST SURREY WATER COMPANY.

RESULTS.

<i>Chemical</i>	<i>Parts per 100,000</i>
Appearance	Clear and bright
Colour	Normal
Odour	Nil
Reaction pH	Neutral 7.4
Free Carbonic acid	Nil
Electric conductivity at 20°C	240
Total solids, dried at 180°C	16.0
Chlorine in Chlorides	2.2
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	4.5
Hardness : Total	8.0
Temporary	2.5
Permanent	5.5
Nitrogen in Nitrates	0.40
Nitrogen in Nitrites	Absent
Free Ammonia	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	Nil
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	Nil
Albuminoid Nitrogen	Nil
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 80°F	0.010
Metals	Absent

Bacteriological

Number of bacteria growing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in one day at 37°C	0
Number of bacteria growing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in two days at 37°C	1
Number of bacteria growing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in three days at 20°C	2
The Bacillus Coli : Present in	Absent in 100 c.c.
The Bacillus Welchii (B. Enteritidis Sporogenes) Present in	Absent in 100 c.c.

Report.

This sample is clear and bright and of normal colour. The water is neutral in reaction, of very moderate hardness, contains no excess of saline or mineral matter in solution, no metals, is of good organic quality, and a high degree of bacterial purity.

It is, therefore, considered pure and wholesome in character, and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

As the result both of the structural condition of a well and of the Analysts' report on the water it contained, a notice was served on the owner of the cottage served by the well under Section 138 of the Public Health Act, 1936, requiring him to provide a supply of wholesome water. The owner failed to comply with the notice, and at the time of writing the Council has had the work carried out in default of the owner.

The Brockham works deal with sewage from Brockham, North Holmwood and Betchworth. They consist of detritus tanks, settling tanks, percolating filters and humus tanks, the effluent being discharged into the River Mole. Sludge is dealt with in digestion tanks. Difficulty has been experienced at these works in consequence of a large amount of surface water entering the sewers in wet weather.

DO NOT ANSWER THIS QUESTION.

Cesspools are emptied periodically by a motor vacuum cesspool emptier where main drainage is not available. The Council is responsible for the emptying and disposal of the contents of earth closets, privies and pail closets, but very few exist.

0 1 0 7

[illegible]

<i>Premises.</i>	<i>Number</i>
Butchers Shops	743
Dairies	50
Cowsheds	65
Milkshops	15
Bakehouses	11
Factories with mechanical power	4
Factories without mechanical power	65
Food Preparation Rooms	71
Market	24
Infected premises	12
Common lodging house	4
Other premises	16
Total	<u>3,746</u>

Complaints in respect of 130 premises were received and dealt with during the year.

CONDITIONS REQUIRING THE SERVICE OF A NOTICE FOUND DURING THE YEAR.

	<i>Number</i>
Houses requiring decoration	43
Houses requiring plastering	38
Damp walls	39
Defective eavesgutters	1
Defective rainwater downspouts	9
Defective roofs	9
Defective brickwork	10
Defective drains	14
Defective yard surfaces and passages	16
Defective yard fences	5
Premises without wholesome water supply	2
Houses with inadequate force of water	1
Defective supply pipes	1
Defective W.C. cisterns	1
Defective water closets	19
Defective fireplaces and hearths	5
Defective kitcheners and ovens	13
Defective washboilers	12
Defective floors	10
Defective window frames	4
Defective sinks and waste pipes	23
Defective sink waste pipes	5
Defective doors	6
Defective stair treads and risers	1
Defective ashbins	65
Defective cesspools	1
Overflowing cesspools	3
Verminous houses	20
Accumulation of refuse	13
Shops without sufficient and suitable sanitary accommodation	3

RESULT OF SERVICE OF NOTICE.								<i>Number</i>
Houses decorated	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	42
Plastering made good	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	43
Dampness remedied	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	34
Eavesgutters repaired or renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Rainwater downspouts repaired or renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Roofs repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8
Brickwork made good	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
Drains cleared, repaired or renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
Yard surfaces and paths made good	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	21
Yard fences repaired or renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Wholesome water supply provided	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Adequate force of water provided	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Water supply pipes repaired or renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
W.C. cisterns repaired or renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
W.C.'s repaired or renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	19
Fireplaces repaired or renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11
Kitcheners repaired or renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	14
Washboilers repaired or renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
Floors repaired or renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18
Window frames repaired or renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9
Sashcords and Fasteners repaired or renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
New Sinks and waste pipes provided	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	24
Sink waste pipes renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Doors repaired or renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Stair treads and risers repaired or renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
New Ashbins provided	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	64
Overflowing Cesspools dealt with	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Houses disinfested	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18
Refuse removed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13
Shops provided with suitable and sufficient sanitary accommodation	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

The Council are responsible under this Act for the inspection of shops to ascertain whether the provisions relating to sanitary accommodation, ventilation and heating are carried out.

During the year 25 inspections of shops were made. Four water closets were provided as the result of preliminary notices.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

As the result of observations it was found necessary, in one case, to write giving warning that an offence had been committed.

Subsequent to this, there was no repetition of the nuisance.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 AND 1928.

There are no premises in Dorking where rag flock is manufactured, used, or sold.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

The system of treatment by the addition of "Chloros" was maintained with satisfactory results during 1938 in the Council's covered swimming bath in Station Road.

Only three privately owned pools open to the public were in use during the year. All have modern chlorinating plants installed, capable of keeping the water in a satisfactory state of purity.

SCHOOLS.

All the nine elementary schools in the district are now provided with water closets.

Inspections revealed that at one school the playground was in very bad condition, being very rough and uneven, and water-logged in wet weather. The surface water drains were silted up.

The necessary work to remedy these conditions was being put in hand at the end of the year.

At another school it was found that the facilities for obtaining drinking water were unsatisfactory, there was a shortage of wash-basins, the interior of the boys' urinal was defective, and that, although some 30 hot dinners were prepared each day, no sink was available for washing vegetables, etc.

The sink for washing vegetables was provided, but the other matters are still under consideration.

CAMPING SITES.

(1) The number of sites in the area which were used for camping purposes during 1938	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
(2) The number of camping sites in respect of which licences have been issued by the local authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
(3) The estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area at one time during the summer season, 1938	...	...	...	...	...	...	500

COMMON LODGING HOUSE.

There is one common lodging house in Dorking, containing beds for 32 persons. On inspection it was found to be kept clean and the regulations observed.

As stated in last year's report, the keeper was registered until March 31st, 1938, renewal of the registration depending on means of escape in case of fire being provided before that date.

The owners of the property had the necessary work carried out, and the Council renewed the registration for a period of twelve months from the 1st April.

BED-BUGS.

New houses for the reception of families from Clearance Areas were completed at the beginning of the year, and in accordance with the decision of the Council, the furniture and effects of 32 families were removed and treated with hydrogen cyanide gas, the work being carried out by a contractor. The bedding of these families was treated in a steam disinfectant.

As in the previous year, the Sanitary Inspector made inspections of the present dwellings of applicants for Council houses in order to ascertain whether or not there was any infestation by vermin. No evidence of bugs was found in the cases dealt with.

As the result of complaints and in the course of inspections, 20 premises were found to be infested to some extent, 8 of these being Council houses.

The treatment carried out was varied according to the nature of the premises and the degree of the infestation. Of the Council houses, 6 were treated with block fumigants, either Lawes or Cimex, and two were sprayed with Zaldecide insecticide. In three of the other cases, both Zaldecide insecticide and Lawes block fumigants were used, in 5 cases Zaldecide alone, in one Lawes blocks alone, in another a blowlamp, and the other two were dealt with by the occupants on the advice of the Sanitary Inspector.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Inspection of the factories, workshops and workplaces in the district revealed only one matter requiring attention, which was remedied on informal notice.

1. INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers prosecuted. (4)
Factories (with mechanical power)	4	—	—
Factories (without mechanical power)	65	—	—
† Other Premises under the Act	2	1	—
(Including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises)			
Total	71	1	—

† Electrical Stations should be reckoned as factories.

(2) DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1)	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)—				
Insufficient	1	1	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences	—	—	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)				
Total	1	1	—	—

(3) OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES.
(Section 108 of Act of 1901 ; Section III of Act of 1937.)

No action was necessary.

4.—HOUSING.

I.—*Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:*

1.	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	453
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	1715
2.	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	129
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	612
3.		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil.
4.		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	234

II.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	216
--	-----

III.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year:

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	25
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a) By owners	18
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	10
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a) By owners	5
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil.

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil.
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil.

IV.—Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding:

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	15
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	15
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	112
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	Nil.
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	7
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	52

- (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... Nil.
- (e) The seven cases of overcrowding which were abated may be summarised as follows:—

Two families were removed to Council houses ; and in five cases the marriage and consequent removal of sons or daughters alleviated the overcrowded conditions.

5—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK.

On the register of retail purveyors of milk, there are now twenty-six premises within the Dorking Urban District boundaries, and eleven outside those boundaries.

In addition, eighteen persons are registered as cowkeepers and wholesale purveyors.

Fifty inspections of dairies, and sixty-five of cowsheds, were carried out during the year.

The results of bacteriological analyses shown in Table III, indicate a reasonably high standard of milk production.

Of the milk producers on the register two hold licences to produce “ Tuberculin Tested ” milk, and nine hold licences to produce “ Accredited ” milk, granted by the Surrey County Council.

TUBERCULOSIS ORDER, 1938.

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health and the Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries for the information that six cows were detected to be suffering from tuberculosis and slaughtered in accordance with the provisions of the above Order during the year.

DESIGNATED MILK SUPPLY.

The following licences for the sale of designated milks, granted by the Dorking Urban District Council, are now in operation—

Dealer's Licence to sell “ Tuberculin Tested ” milk	2
Dealer's Licence to sell “ Pasteurised ” milk	1
Supplementary Licence to sell “ Tuberculin Tested ” milk	3
Supplementary Licence to sell “ Accredited ” milk	1
Supplementary Licence to sell “ Pasteurised ” milk	2

BACTERIOLOGICAL CONTROL OF MILK SUPPLY.

During the year thirty-three samples of milk sold as raw ungraded milk were taken and submitted for examination.

The samples were forwarded to the Royal Surrey County Hospital, and examined for bacterial count, Coli test, and methylene blue reductase test.

The results are given in Table III, where it will be observed that of the thirty-three samples which were submitted to the methylene blue test, thirty-two satisfied the conditions of that test, and therefore can be classed as being of " Accredited " standard.

Twelve samples were examined biologically for the presence of tubercle bacilli by the guinea pig test, all being reported negative.

TABLE III.

Sample No.	Bacteria per c.c.	Bacillus Coli.			
		+ present.			— absent.
		0.1 c.c.	0.01 c.c.	0.001 c.c.	Methylene Blue Test.
1.	94,480	+	+	+	Unsatisfactory
2.	25,400	—	—	—	Satisfactory
3.	10,200	—	—	—	Satisfactory
4.	9,680	—	—	—	Satisfactory
5.	3,020	—	—	—	Satisfactory
6.	2,600	—	—	—	Satisfactory
7.	12,800	—	—	—	Satisfactory
8.	5,200	—	—	—	Satisfactory
9.	10,800	—	—	—	Satisfactory
10.	4,960	—	—	—	Satisfactory
11.	13,120	—	—	—	Satisfactory
12.	29,440	+	—	—	Satisfactory
13.	7,980	—	—	—	Satisfactory
14.	8,720	—	—	—	Satisfactory
15.	36,400	+	—	—	Satisfactory
16.	28,320	—	—	—	Satisfactory
17.	27,120	—	—	—	Satisfactory
18.	18,650	—	—	—	Satisfactory
19.	45,250	+	—	—	Satisfactory
20.	13,100	—	—	—	Satisfactory
21.	10,500	—	—	—	Satisfactory
22.	48,250	+	—	—	Satisfactory
23.	14,440	—	—	—	Satisfactory
24.	28,900	+	—	—	Satisfactory
25.	4,460	—	—	—	Satisfactory
26.	8,190	—	—	—	Satisfactory
27.	5,600	—	—	—	Satisfactory
28.	25,729	—	—	—	Satisfactory
29.	32,000	—	—	—	Satisfactory
30.	9,050	—	—	—	Satisfactory
31.	620	—	—	—	Satisfactory
32.	430	—	—	—	Satisfactory
33.	25,520	—	—	—	Satisfactory

(b) MEAT.

Seven hundred and thirty-four visits to slaughterhouses were made for the purpose of meat inspection.

Tables IV and V show the number of each class of animal killed, the number examined, the number and weights of condemnations (i) of entire carcases, (ii) of parts of carcases or organs, (a) for tuberculosis, and (b) for diseases other than tuberculosis, and the percentage of animals of each class affected.

TABLE IV.

	Bulls	Bullocks	Heifers	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	16	42	63	4	360	1,670	1,368
Number inspected	16	42	63	4	313	1,382	1,334
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis—</i>							
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	4	4	1	2	1	10
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	18.75	9.524	7.937	25	.639	.145	.749
<i>Tuberculosis only—</i>							
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	1	—	3	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	3	6	—	3	—	47
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	7.143	11.111	—	1.917	—	3.523

TABLE V.

WEIGHTS OF CARCASES AND ORGANS FOUND TO BE UNFIT FOR HUMAN FOOD.

	Whole Carcase and organs lbs.	Part Carcase lbs.	Head & Tongue lbs.	Lungs lbs.	Liver lbs.	Mesentery lbs.	Pluck lbs.	Totals lbs.
Bovines	863	280 ³ / ₄	(a) 53	TUBERCULOSIS. 63	52	40	11 ¹ / ₂	1,363 ¹ / ₄
Pigs	—	45	433 ³ / ₄	6 ¹ / ₂	—	29	66 ¹ / ₂	580 ³ / ₄
Bovines	636	—	(b) 93	OTHER DISEASES. 8	73 ¹ / ₂	—	—	810 ¹ / ₂
Pigs	—	67	19	—	15 ¹ / ₂	—	—	101 ¹ / ₂
Sheep	95	—	3	—	2	—	—	100
Bovines	1,499	(c) TOTAL WEIGHTS — ALL DISEASES. 280 ³ / ₄	146	71	125 ¹ / ₂	40	11 ¹ / ₂	2,173 ³ / ₄
Pigs	—	112	452 ³ / ₄	6 ¹ / ₂	15 ¹ / ₂	29	66 ¹ / ₂	682 ¹ / ₄
Sheep	95	—	3	—	2	—	—	100
	1,594	392 ³ / ₄	601 ³ / ₄	77 ¹ / ₂	143	69	78	2,956

Table VI gives an analysis of the nature of diseases found.

On each occasion where carcasses and organs were found to be unfit for food, they were voluntarily surrendered and sent to the Destructor to be destroyed, the total weight so treated being 2,956 lbs.

There are four registered and one licensed slaughterhouses in the District.

As mentioned in previous reports, the age and arrangement of the buildings prevent the occupiers from keeping them in ideal conditions, but usually everything possible is done to comply with the byelaws. In one case, it was found necessary to serve a Statutory Notice requiring the removal of offal.

TABLE VI.
CARCASSES AND ORGANS FOUND TO BE UNFIT FOR HUMAN FOOD.

	Whole Carcase and organs	Part Carcase	Head & Tongue	Lungs	Liver	Mesenter-y	Udder	Pluck
TUBERCULOSIS—								
Bovines	4—inc. 3 c'lv's	2 (inc. 1 calf)	3 (inc. 1 calf)	6	4	5	—	3 calves'
Pigs	—	3	31	3	—	23	—	11
OTHER DISEASES								
Bovines								
Distomatosis	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Abscess	—	—	—	2 (inc. 1 calf)	3	—	—	—
Actinomycosis	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Septicaemia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cavernous angioma	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Dropsy and General Wasting	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pigs								
Arthritis	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Injuries	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cirrhosis	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—
Abscess	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Sheep.								
Septicaemia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Distomatosis	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Cysts	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL—ALL DISEASES.								
Bovines	6—inc. 3 c'lv's	2 (inc. 1 calf)	7 (inc. 1 calf)	8 (inc. 1 calf)	10	5	—	3 calves'
Pigs	—	7	32	3	6	23	—	11
Sheep	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

Two new slaughtermen were granted licences during the year, the Council being satisfied by the Sanitary Inspector that the applicants had received sufficient instruction from experienced persons to fulfil the conditions of the Act,

(c) OTHER FOODS.

In addition to the meat found to be unfit and surrendered at the slaughterhouses, the following foodstuffs were inspected and found to be unfit for human consumption—

Bacon	1076 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Corned Beef	282 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.
Chicken and Ham Roll	6 lbs.
Chicken, Ham and Tongue Roll	9 lbs.
Ox Tongue	10 lbs.
Imported Beef	102 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Fillet of Cod	14 lbs.
	1500 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.
Rabbits	107
Orange Fizz	21 $\frac{1}{2}$ gross boxes
Lemon Fizz	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ gross boxes

These were surrendered and destroyed at the Council's Destructor.

ADULTERATION OF FOODS, ETC.

The Surrey County Council are the authorities for the administration of the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act. I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for the information that fifty-eight samples of milk and fourteen of other articles were analysed during the year. One prosecution was undertaken in respect of a sample of "sheep's liver" and a conviction obtained.

6.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Table VII shows the total of the various infectious diseases notified during 1938, classified according to age, together with the number of cases removed to Hospital and the total deaths from each disease.

SMALLPOX.—No case of smallpox was notified during the year. No primary vaccination or re-vaccination was performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

SCARLET FEVER.—Three notifications of scarlet fever were received, compared with 17 in 1937. The case-rate was 0.17 per 1,000 population, compared with 2.41 for England and Wales as a whole. All patients were admitted to the Council's Isolation Hospital for treatment.

DIPHTHERIA.—Two cases of diphtheria were notified, as against four in 1937, giving a case-rate of 0.12 per thousand population compared with the rate for England and Wales of 1.58. One patient was removed to the Council's Isolation Hospital for treatment. The other patient was a child normally resident in the district who contracted the disease while undergoing treatment for another condition in a London Hospital. This child unfortunately died of the disease, giving a death-rate for the year of 0.06 per thousand population, compared with the National rate of 0.07.

In addition notifications of diphtheria were received in respect of two other patients, but after a period of observation in the Isolation Hospital it was decided that neither of the patients was suffering from diphtheria.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.—During the year a continuation has been made of the Council's scheme for immunisation against diphtheria. Explanatory leaflets were distributed to parents of children attending infants departments of schools in the district and the Surrey County Council Welfare Centre, with the result that fifty-three children received treatment. Since the scheme was put into operation in 1936 three hundred and twenty-five children have received treatment.

Some parents will no doubt prefer to arrange for this treatment to be given by their own doctors. For this reason the Council have decided that medical practitioners shall continue to be provided with the necessary material, the cost of administering the treatment being a private matter between the doctor and the patient. It should be noted that any child or adult, resident in the Urban District, may be included under this arrangement.

DIPHTHERIA ANTITOXIN.—By arrangement with Messrs. Clark & Co., Dispensing Chemists, of High Street, Dorking, diphtheria antitoxin is available on request by medical practitioners at any hour of the day or night.

ERYSIPELAS.—Three notifications of this disease were received.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.—Four notifications of this condition were received, giving a case-rate per 1,000 total births of 15.69 compared with the rate for England and Wales of 14.42.

The Surrey County Council is the authority for Maternity and Child Welfare and in its scheme provides for any necessary institutional treatment, or for the obtaining of consultant's opinion, or of bacteriological examinations required for cases of puerperal pyrexia.

PNEUMONIA.—Seven notifications in respect of pneumonia were received.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.—One notification of this condition was received. Under its Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme, the Surrey County Council has made arrangements for the institutional treatment of infants suffering from this disease.

ENTERIC FEVER.—One notification of enteric fever was received during the year. Satisfactory arrangements were made for the patient to be isolated at home, and no further cases occurred.

TABLE VII.

Disease.	Cases notified.													Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital.	Deaths.
	Under 1.	1 to 2.	2 to 3.	3 to 4.	4 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 35.	35 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and over.	At all ages.		
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	3	3	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	2	1	7	—	8
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	4	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Total	1	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	5	3	5	2	21	5	9

TUBERCULOSIS.

Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis which came to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health during the year are set out in Table VIII, together with an analysis of the deaths in the area from this disease during the same period. The new cases include, in addition to those officially notified, seven patients who came into the district from other areas in which they had already been notified and two patients who died of the disease without previous notification. Enquiries made as to the reason for this apparent omission showed that in one case the patient had been resident in an institution in another district, and had been notified there, and in the other case the diagnosis was not made until after death.

The four deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis represent an annual death rate of 0.23 per thousand of the population, compared with the rate of 0.53 for England and Wales. One death was caused by non-pulmonary tuberculosis, the death rate for this condition being 0.06 compared with 0.10 for the whole country. The total tuberculosis death rate per thousand population is therefore 0.29 compared with the rate of 0.63 for England and Wales as a whole.

The names of four other patients were removed from the register during the year, irrespective of transfers to other districts, these being patients regarded as recovered.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

TABLE VIII.

AGE PERIOD.				NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
				Pulmonary. M. F.		Non- pulmonary. M. F.		Pulmonary. M. F.		Non- pulmonary. M. F.	
Under 1	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 5	.....	.....	.....	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
5 „ 10	.....	.....	.....	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
10 „ 15	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 „ 20	.....	.....	.....	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
20 „ 25	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
25 „ 35	.....	.....	.....	5	1	1	2	—	2	—	—
35 „ 45	.....	.....	.....	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
45 „ 55	.....	.....	.....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 „ 65	.....	.....	.....	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	.....	.....	.....	1	2	—	—	1	1	—	—
Totals				9	5	6	4	1	3	1	—

DISINFECTION.

Seventeen premises were disinfected, thirteen after the occurrence of notifiable infectious disease and four for other purposes.

DORKING AND DISTRICT TUBERCULOSIS CARE COMMITTEE.

The work of this Committee has continued actively throughout the year. The Honorary Officers of the Committee are—Chairman, The Rev. Oswald Hunt; Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Cecil Hodges; Secretary, Mrs. Cyril Elithorn; Treasurer, F. H. Cole, Esq. (Barclays Bank Ltd., Dorking).

Briefly, the aim of the Committee is to render assistance to tuberculous persons, particularly in the difficult period following the patient's discharge from sanatorium or hospital. At this time, much of the benefit derived from institutional treatment, often of a costly nature, may be lost for one or other of the following reasons—

(1) As a result of adverse economic conditions the patient may be obliged to return to unsuitable employment.

(2) As a result of illness, employment may have been lost, with consequent anxiety as to the future and a loss of morale.

(3) As a result of poor home circumstances, the patient's diet may be insufficient or improper, and his surroundings may be unhealthy, both factors which may cause deterioration in health.

It is obvious that a Committee with sufficient funds at its disposal, and in touch with various local associations and organisations, is of great value in combating such circumstances as those mentioned above. It is also able to interest itself in the welfare of dependents of tubercular persons, particularly children, and thus play a part in preventing the spread of infection.

The activities of the Committee are not confined to the Urban District, but cover a wide area. It is a voluntary organisation, and, with the exception of a grant received from the Surrey County Council, it is dependent upon subscriptions and donations.

The meetings of the Committee are attended by the Medical Officer of Health, the district Tuberculosis Officer, the Health Visitors working in the area, and the Relieving officer.

BOROUGH OF EPSOM AND EWELL

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health:

CYRUS IVE, M.B., B.S.(Lond.), M.R.C.S.(Eng.), L.R.C.P.(Lond.),
D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

WM. H. C. HAGGER, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:

L. H. GRACE, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

P. MEDDOWS TAYLOR, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

E. A. ATKINSON, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

(Each Sanitary Inspector holds the Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate
as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.)

Clerical Staff:

K. G. BEWICK, Cert.S.I.B., and P. HUNT,
Clerical Assistants to Medical Officer of Health.

H. J. T. WOOLFORD, A.R.San.I., C. H. AYLING, A.I.H., and
Miss D. D. WOOD, Clerical Assistants to Sanitary Inspector.

(The Medical Officer of Health and his clerical assistants act in a similar
capacity for the Dorking and Leatherhead Urban Districts and for the
Dorking and Horley Rural District.)

BOROUGH OF EPSOM AND EWELL

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1938

1.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (acres)	8,427
Population (Census 1931)	35,231
Population (estimated mid-year, 1938)	59,930
Density (persons per acre)	7.1
Number of private families or separate occupiers (Census 1931)	6,661
New houses certified, 1938	1,090
Number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Books at 31st December, 1938	15,360
Rateable Value	£647,002
Sum represented by a penny rate	£2,572

The district is mainly residential in character, but a large number of people are employed locally in the building trade, in brick making, at the L.C.C. hospitals, and in connection with the racing stables. There is no evidence that any of these occupations are detrimental to the health of the workers.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
Live Births:—				
Total ...	905	475	430	} Birth Rate 15.10
Legitimate ...	871	464	407	
Illegitimate ...	34	11	23	

Still Births:—				
Total ...	30	19	11	} Rate per 1,000 total births ... 32.1
Legitimate ...	29	18	11	
Illegitimate ...	1	1	—	
Deaths (net) ...	423	216	207	Death Rate 7.06

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:—

	<i>Deaths.</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.</i>
Puerperal Sepsis	1	1.07
Other Puerperal causes	2	2.14
Total	3	3.21

Total deaths of infants under one year of age ... 36

Death Rate of infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births	39.78
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	37.88
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	88.22

Deaths from:—

Measles (all ages)	1
Whooping Cough (all ages)	—
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	6

Table I shows a comparison of vital statistics for the Borough of Epsom and Ewell since 1881, compared with the figures for England and Wales during the same period.

BIRTHS.

The total live births accredited to the area by the Registrar General were 905, of which 475 were of males and 430 of females. This total represents a birth rate of 15.1 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, compared with a similar rate for England and Wales as a whole. The local birth rate is artificially lowered by reason of the inmates of the London County Council Institutions, who are included in the resident population, but who make no contribution to the reproductive life of the community. Thirty still-births were registered during the year, giving a still-birth rate of 0.50, compared with the National rate of 0.60 per thousand population.

DEATHS.

The deaths registered in the area after correction for inward and outward transfers numbered 423. This represents a crude death rate of 7.06 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, compared with the figure of 11.6 for England and Wales.

In order that the mortality of the district may be properly compared with the mortality of England and Wales it is necessary, however, to eliminate differences caused by variation in the composition of the two populations as regards age and sex. For this purpose an areal comparability factor has been supplied by the Registrar General and when applied to the crude death rate of the district, an adjusted death rate of 6.07 is obtained.

It must be remembered that this figure is affected by the inclusion of the inmates of the London County Council Hospitals in the estimated population, as in the great majority of cases deaths in these institutions are transferred to the former place of residence. Discounting this fact, however, the death rate still remains well below the national figure given above.

The causes of death are set out in Table II.

INFANT MORTALITY.

The deaths of infants under one year of age numbered 36, this total including 21 males and 15 females. The infant mortality rate for the year is 39.78 per 1,000 live births, compared with that of 53 for England and Wales.

TABLE I.—COMPARATIVE BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES.

Period.	Average Annual Birth Rate per 1,000 living. (Annual Rates 1931—1938)		Average Annual Crude Death Rate per 1,000 (Annual Rates 1931—1938)		Average Annual Infant Mortality Rate† (Annual Rates 1931—1938)	
	England & Wales.	Borough of Epsom & Ewell.	England & Wales.	Borough of Epsom & Ewell.	England & Wales.	Borough of Epsom & Ewell.
1881—1890	32.4	26.2	19.1	14.5	142	107
1891—1900	29.9	22.9	18.2	13.7	153	121
1901—1910	27.2	19.2	15.4	8.7	128	93
1911—1920	21.8	15.0	14.4*	10.2	100	71
1921—1930	18.3	11.8	12.1	7.5	72	47
1931	15.8	10.3	12.3	6.4	66	53
1932	15.3	11.4	12.0	7.0	65	41
1933	14.4	10.5	12.3	7.3	64	65
1934	14.8	12.7	11.8	7.2 (6.2)	59	42
1935	14.7	12.4	11.7	7.0 (6.0)	57	26
1936	14.8	13.3	12.1	8.0 (6.9)	59	39
1937	14.9	13.5	12.4	6.9 (6.0)	59	35
1938	15.1	15.1	11.6	7.1 (6.1)	53	40

† *i.e.*, Deaths of children under one year of age per 1,000 births.

* Including civilian mortality only from 1915—1920.

The death rate figures in parentheses have been adjusted by the “areal comparability factor” (see page 32).

TABLE II.—CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE BOROUGH OF EPSOM AND EWELL.

Cause of Death.						M.	F.	Total.
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
2.	Measles	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	1	1
3.	Scarlet Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
5.	Diphtheria	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	1	1
6.	Influenza	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	2	3
7.	Encephalitis Lethargica	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
8.	Cerebro-spinal Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
9.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	.....	.....	.....	.....	14	2	16
10.	Other Tuberculosis	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
11.	Syphilis	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	1	1
12.	General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	1	5
13.	Cancer, Malignant Disease	.....	.....	.....	.....	28	35	63
14.	Diabetes	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	6	13
15.	Cerebral Haemorrhage	.....	.....	.....	.....	8	10	18
16.	Heart Disease	.....	.....	.....	.....	49	52	101
17.	Aneurysm	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	1	1
18.	Other Circulatory Diseases	.....	.....	.....	.....	19	8	27
19.	Bronchitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	6	13
20.	Pneumonia (all forms)	.....	.....	.....	.....	13	13	26
21.	Other Respiratory Diseases	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	1	1
22.	Peptic Ulcer	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	1	3
23.	Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	3	6
24.	Appendicitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	—	3
25.	Cirrhosis of Liver	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	—	1
26.	Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	6	13
28.	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	3	7
29.	Puerperal Sepsis	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	1	1
30.	Other Puerperal Causes	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	2	2
31.	Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	.....	.....	.....	.....	14	9	23
32.	Senility	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	6	8
33.	Suicide	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	3	6
34.	Other Violence	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	10	20
35.	Other defined Diseases	.....	.....	.....	.....	15	22	37
36.	Causes ill-defined or unknown	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	1	1
Special causes (included in No. 35 above) :								
	Smallpox	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
	Poliomyelitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
	Polioencephalitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
All causes						216	207	423

2.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Specimens taken by medical practitioners are sent for bacteriological examination to Dr. K. E. Hughes, Pathologist to the Sutton and Cheam

Hospital, or to the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine in London. During the year 1938 the number of examinations made was as follows:

For the diagnosis of Diphtheria ...	...	235
„ Tuberculosis ...	...	90
„ Enteric Fever ...	...	13
Total ...		338

Laboratory examinations required to establish the diagnosis of suspected venereal disease in a communicable stage are arranged for under the Surrey County Council's Venereal Diseases Scheme. Samples of milk, food and potable water are sent to the Clinical Research Association, Ltd., in London.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(1) INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—By arrangement with the Cuddington Joint Hospital Board the motor ambulance maintained at the Cuddington Isolation Hospital, Banstead (telephone Vigilant 0048), is used for the removal of all cases of infectious disease.

(2) NON-INFECTIOUS AND ACCIDENT CASES.—The Council maintains two motor ambulances at the Fire Station (telephone Epsom 2222) for the conveyance of such cases. Accident cases are conveyed free, but for other cases a charge of 7/6 is made for journeys within the district boundaries, plus a charge of 1/- per mile for journeys outside the boundaries.

In addition the Epsom Ambulance Service, of West Street, Epsom (telephone Epsom 745), maintains two 18 h.p. Austin ambulances with a staff of drivers sufficiently large to provide a day and night service. When answering a call, each ambulance carries a nurse and a stretcher bearer. For cases dealt with within a radius of a mile and a half of the garage a charge of 5/- is made, for distances up to and including five miles 2/6 plus a mileage charge of 9d. per mile, and for longer distances the charge is based on mileage at 9d. per mile.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) GENERAL NURSING.—The greater part of this work is undertaken by two Nursing Associations operating in the district, the Epsom District Nursing Association which maintains four nurses at 36, Temple Road, Epsom (Epsom 1153) and the Ewell District Nursing Association which employs three nurses at 2, Bypass Road, Ewell (Ewell 2022). Both these associations are supported financially partly by members' subscriptions and partly by donations. Nurses are available for non-members on payment of a fee.

(b) NURSING OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.—There is no special provision for the nursing of such cases.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

The Surrey County Council Clinic is situated in Waterloo Road for use as a Health Centre for Maternity and Child Welfare work, for the medical examination of school children, and as a tuberculosis dispensary. A centre for Maternity and Child Welfare is also held, under the control of the County Council, at Ewell Court, Kingston Road, Ewell. A timetable of the clinics is set out below.

	<i>Waterloo Road Centre.</i>	<i>Ewell Court Centre.</i>
Welfare Clinic	Monday and Wednesday 2—4 p.m.	Monday and Thursday 2—4 p.m.
Ante-natal Clinic	Thursday 2—4 p.m. 2nd and 4th Tuesdays 10 a.m.—12 noon	Friday 2—4 p.m.
Tuberculosis Dispensary	1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Tuesdays at 2 p.m. 4th Tuesday at 5.30	—
General Medical Clinic	Wednesday 9.30 a.m. — 12 noon	Thursday 9.45 a.m.—12 noon
Dental Clinic	1st and 3rd Tuesdays 9.30 a.m.—12 noon Wednesday 9.30 a.m.— 12 noon Thursday 9.30 a.m.— 12 noon Friday 1.45 —4 p.m.	Monday 1.45—4 p.m. Tuesday 1.45—4 p.m. Wednesday 9.30 a.m.— 12 noon, and 1.45—4 p.m. Thursday 1.45—4 p.m. Saturday 9.30 a.m.—12 noon
M. & C. W. Dental Clinic	Fridays 9.30 a.m.—12 noon	—
Eye Clinic	1st Thursday 9.30 a.m.— 12 noon	3rd Wednesday 9.45 a.m. —12 noon, and 1.45— 4 p.m.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

The Epsom and Ewell Cottage Hospital is a voluntary hospital with a total of 40 beds, including six private beds, and provides for medical, surgical and abnormal midwifery cases. Normal midwifery cases are not admitted. The Hospital also maintains Out-Patient, Massage and X-Ray Departments.

The Epsom County Hospital is under the control of the Surrey County Council and has accommodation for more than 300 patients. It has been modernised within the past few years and every class of case is accepted for treatment, including normal midwifery cases.

All cases of infectious disease with the exception of smallpox occurring in the district and requiring isolation and treatment in hospital are admitted to the Cuddington Isolation Hospital, situated on Banstead Downs. This hospital is administered by the Cuddington Joint Hospital Board, composed of representatives from the five constituent authorities.

Accommodation for cases of smallpox is provided by the Surrey County Council in the Clandon Smallpox Hospital.

The Surrey County Council is responsible for the provision of institutional treatment for persons suffering from Tuberculosis. The majority of patients with Tuberculosis of the Lungs are admitted to Milford Sanatorium, but other accommodation is available in County Hospitals and elsewhere.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Sewage from the Borough is dealt with at two works situated at Hook Road, Epsom, and Ruxley, Ewell.

The sewage from Epsom, including the London County Council Institutions, is delivered to the Hook Road works, where part flows over the land or is treated on the Simplex Aeration Plant. The remainder is pumped and distributed over the land, passing finally through contact beds. The whole of the effluent drains to a tributary of the River Hogsmill, and amounts to about 1,525,000 gallons per day dry weather flow.

Sewage from the parishes of Ewell and Cuddington gravitates to the Ruxley Works and is treated on contact beds, percolating filters, settling and humus tanks. A storm water tank and sludge drying beds are also in use. From the West Ewell district sewage is pumped to a balancing tank where it combines with sewage from Chessington within the Borough of Surbiton. Treatment is given in settling tanks, percolating filters, humus tanks and sludge beds. The whole of the effluent flows to the River Hogsmill, dry weather flow being in the nature of 925,000 gallons per day. If the scheme for the combination of local authorities with sewage disposal works in the Hogsmill Valley materialises, the works in Epsom and Ewell will be abandoned as such.

The first four contracts of the main drainage scheme, consisting of the western trunk sewer, the Epsom storm tanks, the 72" collecting sewer and connections to existing sewers and a portion of the west intercepting sewer have already been completed, and contract No. 5 for the Ewell storm tanks is expected to be put in hand shortly.

The work of relaying the sewer in Ewell High Street has been completed and it is confidently expected that no further trouble will be experienced from the surcharging of this sewer.

A Committee has been set up to investigate the possibilities of connecting houses at present draining to cesspools to the main sewers, and it is hoped that a number of cesspools will be eliminated during the present year.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The Surrey County Council has continued to carry out work during the year maintaining the Hogsmill River in a clean condition, and a scheme is in hand for a large-scale improvement of the river and its tributaries to relieve flooding during times of storm.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

House refuse is removed weekly throughout the district by the Council's staff. Approximately one-third of the refuse is consumed in the Meldrums Destructor at the Sewage Farm and the heat generated is utilised for working pumping and air compressing machinery. The remainder is disposed of by controlled tipping at Stone's Brick Field. Periodical visits have been paid to the tip, and reference must be made to the efficient manner in which the work has been carried out under the Borough Engineer and Surveyor.

Houses in the district are provided generally with covered movable galvanised iron dustbins. Trade refuse is collected and disposed of by the Council, one free bin per week being allowed for each £40 of rateable value, additional bins being charged at 4d. per bin.

The emptying of cesspools is not undertaken by the Council as a rate charge, but is carried out at actual cost on application.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

I am indebted to Mr. Wm. H. C. Hagger, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., the Chief Sanitary Inspector, for particulars of the work performed under his supervision during 1938.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE BY THE SANITARY INSPECTORS AND OTHER DEPARTMENTAL WORK.

DWELLING-HOUSES.	<i>Number</i>
Inspections under Public Health or Housing Acts	654
Re-inspections or visits re work in progress	1535
Sundry Visits	112
Inspections including re-inspections re cesspools	341
OTHER PREMISES (Inspections, re-inspections and other visits)—	
Bakehouses	42
Butchers	73
Cowsheds	22
Cooked Meat Shops	3
Dairies and Milkshops	67
Purveyors of Milk (Vehicles)	6
Employment Agencies	4
Factories and Workshops (Factories and Workshop Act, 1901)	56
Factories with power (Factories Act, 1937)	41
Factories without power (Factories Act, 1937)	11
Visits in connection with Factories (Factories Act, 1937)	16
Fishmongers	21
Greengrocers	18
Grocery and Provision Stores	38
Ice Cream Vendors	19
Market and Coffee Stalls, etc.	21
Outworkers' premises	6
Pigsties	33
Poultry and Game Dealers	2
Refreshment Rooms, Kitchens, etc.	38
Schools	21
Slaughter-houses	146
Stables	9
Swimming Pools	3
Tents, Vans and Sheds	18
Other food premises	17
Any other premises not included above	17

INSPECTIONS (including re-inspections) of Shops.

Shops Act, 1934	315
Shops Acts, 1912 and 1928	322
Shops (Sunday Trading Restrictions) Act, 1936	261

Visits and Inspections under Rats & Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919	45
Visits and Inspections made by the Corporation's Rat-catcher	1716
Visits in connection with Infectious Disease	191
Smoke observations	18
Visits re drainage and drainage work in progress	805
Drains tested with water	214
Drains tested with smoke	18
Drains tested with air	22
Final inspection of drains after repair or relaying	77
Final inspection of drains after connection to sewer	16
Building plans referred from Surveyor	57
Water samples taken	13
Milk samples taken	59
Miscellaneous visits	835

Nuisances or defects discovered—

under Public Health Acts	425
,, Housing Acts	2987
Number of complaints received and investigated	690
Number of Notices served—	
Statutory	4
Informal	494
Total	498

Number of Notices complied with	405
Number of Notices outstanding at end of year	93

SUMMARY OF CONDITIONS AND DEFECTS FOUND ON INSPECTION.

	<i>Number of Premises.</i>
Water supply insufficient or unwholesome	7
Defective Closets, or nuisances from closets	31
W.C.'s without flush of water	7
Drains defective	15
Nuisances from cesspools	35
Defective sink waste pipes	67
Insufficient lighting of rooms	12
Insufficient ventilation of rooms	69
Dampness of houses	106
Defective eaves gutters and downspouts	53
Uncleanliness of houses	178
General want of repair	262
Inadequate paving of yards	41
Insufficient ashbins	154
Outhouses dilapidated.....	5
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance.....	2
Offensive accumulations (manure etc.)	3

SUMMARY OF DEFECTS REMEDIED AND OTHER WORK
CARRIED OUT.

	<i>Number</i>
Water supply provided in house	1
Water closets repaired or new basins provided, etc.	28
New water closets provided	98
Water laid on to closets	4
W.C.'s substituted for pail closets	7
Drains connected to public sewer voluntarily	15
Drains unblocked or cleansed	90
Manholes new	73
Manholes repaired	37
Vent pipes new	48
Vent pipes repaired	7
New sinks provided	39
New wash-hand basins provided	76
Cesspools cleansed	35
Cesspools abolished	17
Cesspool (new)	1
Sink waste pipes repaired or new provided	54
Efficient lighting of rooms provided	11
Efficient ventilation of rooms provided	45
Dampness of dwelling-houses remedied	68
Houses cleansed and whitewashed	138
Houses generally repaired	180
Eaves gutters and downspouts repaired	37
Paving of yards provided or repaired	30
Outhouses repaired	5
Covered ashbins provided	144
Nuisances from improper keeping of animals abated	2
Nuisances from smoke—number of premises	2
Offensive accumulations removed	3
Ditches and ponds cleansed	9
Nuisances abated or defects remedied	2380
Unwholesome food condemned (number of occasions)	23
Houses disinfected after Infectious Diseases	74
Houses disinfected after Tuberculosis	25
Disinfection by request (cost defrayed)	7

COMPLAINTS.

During the year, 690 complaints were received in connection with the following matters, viz.—

Choked drains	69
Insanitary and dilapidated condition of houses	86
Overcrowding	9
Removal of domestic refuse	16
Offensive smells	38
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance	5
Ditches and ponds in a dirty condition	4
Water supply	7
Accumulations of rubbish, etc.	25
Offensive accumulations—manure	4
Flooding	14
Cesspools	5
Crickets	29
Shops Acts	19
Unwholesome Food	10

							<i>Number</i>
Rats infesting premises .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	217
Smoke Nuisances .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Verminous Houses .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	32
Gipsies .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Miscellaneous .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	93
Total .....						.....	<u>690</u>

BAKEHOUSES.

Two new bakehouses have been added to the Register during the year, making a total of 21 in the Borough. Systematic inspection revealed the existence of certain sanitary defects. These, together with the necessary limewashing, were dealt with without the need for the service of formal Notices.

OUTWORKERS.

Twenty-two lists were received, and the names of the Outworkers recorded in the Register. Thirty-nine Notices were sent to other Local Authorities in accordance with Sub-Section 2 of Section 107 of the Act, 1901.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 & 1928.

There are two premises within the Borough where general upholstery work is carried out.

The work consists mainly of repairs, but some rag flock is used. No infringements were found during the year.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

No trade within the category of Offensive Trades is carried on within the Borough.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no Common Lodging Houses within the Borough.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

A number of temporary conveniences are erected on the Downs by the Grand Stand Association for use during Race Weeks. The conveniences were inspected prior to the Spring Meeting and Derby Week, when it was found that repairs and improvements to several of these structures had been carried out.

The permanent conveniences on the Grand Stand were also inspected and found satisfactory.

During Derby Week, inspections were made of most of the temporary structures used as conveniences, erected by showmen, caterers, gipsies and others. In many cases conditions were found very unsatisfactory and a full report was made to the Special Sub-Committee appointed to deal with the question of cesspool drainage and water supply.

3.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

That part of the district constituting the parish of Epsom is supplied by water from the Council's waterworks. The water is obtained from deep wells, borings and adits in the chalk situated in East Street.

The infiltration from the tertiary beds referred to in my previous report has been successfully dealt with. The supply is still submitted to emergency chlorinating treatment.

Following the report of Dr. E. Suckling, of the Counties Public Health Laboratories, London, the Council have had prepared a scheme for permanent sterilisation treatment, which has been submitted to the Ministry of Health for their approval.

Weekly bacteriological samples and monthly chemical samples have been taken, and the results show that the water pumped to supply has been of excellent quality. The following analysis is of a sample typical of those taken during the year.

RESULTS.

				<i>Parts per</i>
				100,000
(i) <i>Chemical—</i>				
Total solids (dried at 120°C)	.....	.....		35.0
Combined chlorine (as Cl.)	.....	.....		1.80
equivalent to Sodium Chloride (NaCl.)	.....			2.97
Nitric Nitrogen (nitrates)	.....	.....		0.52
Nitrous Nitrogen (nitrites)	.....	.....		Nil
Ammoniacal nitrogen	.....	.....		Nil
Albuminoid nitrogen.....	.....	.....		0.0004
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27°C.....	.....			0.013
Lead or copper	.....	.....		Nil
Temporary hardness (equivalent to CaCO ₃)				24.0
Permanent hardness	„	„		4.5
Total hardness	„	„	.....	28.5
(ii) <i>Bacteriological—</i>				
The average number of organisms producing visible colonies on gelatine plates, incubated at 20°C, for three days is found to be.....	.....	.....		6 per c.c.
The average number of organisms producing visible colonies on agar plates, incubated at 37.5°C for two days is found to be	.....			Less than 1 per c.c.
B. Coli.....	.....	.....		Not found in 100 c.c.
Streptococci	.....	.....		Not found in 30 c.c.
Cl. Welchii (spores)	.....	.....		Not found in 100 c.c.

Remarks.

The combined results show that this water is of a high degree of organic and bacterial purity and is quite safe for drinking purposes.

No sediment was present in the sample:

Ewell and the greater part of Cuddington are supplied by the Sutton District Water Company with a softened water derived from wells in the chalk situated at Cheam, Sutton and Woodmansterne.

The following report is on a sample dated July, 1938, and is typical of those taken during the year.

RESULTS.

						<i>Parts per 100,000</i>
(i) <i>Chemical—</i>						
Appearance	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Bright; slight film deposit of chalk.
Colour	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Normal
Odour	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Reaction pH	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Neutral 8.0
Free Carbonic Acid.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Electric Conductivity at 20°C	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	295
Total Solids 180°C	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20.0
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4.5
Chlorine in Chlorides	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.1
Nitrogen in Nitrates	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.88 Nitrites absent
Hardness : Permanent	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8.5 5.95 grains per gal.
Temporary	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.5 1.75 „
Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11.0 7.7 „
Metals	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Iron 0.003
Free Ammonia	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.0084
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Albuminoid Nitrogen	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 80°F	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Free Chlorine	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.12 p.p.m.
(ii) <i>Bacteriological—</i>						
No. Bacteria per c.c. ml.						
On Agar in 3 days at 20°C	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
On Agar in 1 day at 37°C	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0
On Agar in 2 days at 37°C	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
The Bacillus Coli	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Not found in 100 c.c.
Bacillus Welchii (B. Enteritidis Sporogenes)						Not found in 100 c.c.

Report.

This sample is reasonable, clear and bright and of normal colour, containing only a few particles of chalk in suspension. The water is practically neutral in reaction, of moderate hardness, contains no excess of saline or mineral matter in solution, and no metals apart from a negligible trace of iron.

Free chlorine was present in the chemical sample in small and not excessive trace. The water is of good organic quality and high degree of bacterial purity, and is considered pure and wholesome in character and suitable for the purposes of Public Supply.

A number of houses in the northern part of the area are supplied by the Metropolitan Water Board and one cottage on the south-west outskirts of Epsom by the East Surrey Water Company.

In addition two isolated houses are dependent upon wells for their water supply.

FACTORIES.

The Factories Act, 1937, came into force on the 1st July, 1938. The Act consolidates, with amendments, the Factory and Workshop Acts, 1901 to 1929, and other enactments relating to factories.

The change in the definition of the term "factory" which now includes workshops, but makes a distinction between premises with mechanical power and those without mechanical power, made it necessary to completely revise the Register of Factories and Workshops.

One hundred and twenty-four inspections were made during the year to forty-two factories with mechanical power and forty-five factories without mechanical power.

The general sanitary conditions found were satisfactory, but the following is a summary of defects and infringements discovered. In most cases the matters were attended to after verbal Notice, but written Notice was necessary in eleven instances.

SHOPS.

During the year, 187 shops were inspected under the Shops Act, 1934, and the following is a summary of the work carried out in relation to ventilation and temperature of shops and to sanitary conveniences:—

Ventilation of shops improved	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Means of heating provided	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Additional sanitary accommodation provided	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Washing facilities provided	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8
W.C.'s repaired.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
W.C.'s cleansed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8
Exemption Certificates granted under Sec. 10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Five complaints were received in respect of alleged nuisances from smoke.

The complaints concerned smoke from a factory chimney, and an incinerator at a shop.

In the case of the factory chimney, a nuisance was being caused by the emission of a large quantity of smoke at intermittent periods during the day. On inspection, it was found that the stoking was not being carried out in a satisfactory manner.

Notice was served on the Firm to give the matter attention, and further observations were made, but no nuisance was found.

The complaints regarding smoke and fumes from an incinerator at a shop were investigated, and after Notice to the Occupier, no further complaints were received.

(1) INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO
HEALTH.
INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers prosecuted. (4)
Factories with mechanical power	66	7	—
Factories without mechanical power	58	4	—
† Other Premises under the Act	—	—	—
(including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises)			
† Electrical Stations should be reckoned as factories			
Total	124	11	—

(2) DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of defects in respect of which Prosec- utions were instituted. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1)	8	8	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)	1	1	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)	1	1	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)—				
Insufficient	2	2	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	7	6	—	—
Not separate for sexes	1	1	—	—
Other offences	9	7	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Fac- tories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re- enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937)				
Total	29	26	—	—

OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES.
(Section 108 of Act of 1901; Section III of Act of 1937.)

No action was necessary.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

The new Public Baths being erected by the Corporation in East Street, Epsom, were well in progress at the end of the year.

There is one privately owned swimming pool in the Borough open to the general public.

The pool is equipped with plant for continuous filtration and chlorination, and samples of the water taken during the bathing season were found to be of a satisfactory standard.

The other bathing pools in the Borough are provided in connection with schools and clubs, and are not open to the general public.

ERADICATION OF BED-BUGS.

The following is a summary of action taken during the year for the eradication of bed-bugs:—

Houses found infested							
(a)	Council houses	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8
(b)	Other houses	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	32
Total						.....	40

Evidence of infestation is found in the course of routine housing inspections by the Sanitary Inspectors, or following complaints, and in the case of Council houses by the Housing Manager.

For infested houses already in occupation, one or other of the contact insecticides have been used.

When re-housing overcrowded families, six houses were found in a verminous condition. Arrangements were made for the furniture, etc., to be treated with Hydro Cyanide Gas and the bedding steam disinfected before being taken to the new Corporation houses. The vacated houses were also treated before being re-occupied.

During the year, five houses were found in a verminous condition after being vacated, and arrangements were made with the Owners to have the premises treated with Hydro Cyanide Gas before being re-occupied.

In order to prevent the infestation of Council houses by incoming tenants, it is the practice of the Housing Manager to make a specific examination for bed-bugs at the premises in which the applicants are living. Where evidence is found, disinfestation is carried out before or during removal.

When contact insecticides are used, the work of disinfestation is carried out by Corporation employees, under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors or the Housing Manager. When the use of Hydrogen Cyanide is necessary, arrangements are made with Firms specialising in this type of disinfestation to carry out the work.

SCHOOLS.

Twenty-one inspections of drainage and sanitary fittings at Private and Elementary Schools within the Borough have been carried out during the year.

At the Church of England Schools at Ladbroke Road and Hawthorne Place, Epsom, the existing trough closets were replaced by nine pedestal water closets at each School.

The washing trough at the Hook Road Church of England School was removed and replaced by four wash-hand basins; a new W.C. and wash-hand basin was also provided for the staff at the Hook Road Council School.

Alterations and additions were carried out at two Private Schools to improve the sanitary accommodation.

4.—HOUSING.

I.—Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Act)	459
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	1809
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	248
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	1133
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	7
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	214

II.—Remedy of defects during the year without Service of formal Notices:

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	139
--	-----

*III.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year:**A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners...	Nil

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners...	Nil

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	6
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	2

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

IV.—Housing Act, 1936—Part IV.—Overcrowding:

(a)	(1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of the year	5
	(2)	Number of families dwelling therein	6
	(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein	34
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	14
(c)	(1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	55
	(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases... ..	420
(d)		Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil
(e)		Of the five dwelling-houses known to be overcrowded at the end of the year, there were:—	
		Private dwelling-houses	2
		Sub-let dwellings	1
		Council houses	2
		Total	5

CAMPING SITES.

There are no recognised camping sites within the Borough, and no licences have been issued under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Since the gipsies have been prevented from camping on the Downs, the number of caravans coming into the Borough, particularly during the weeks preceding the Races, has been considerably reduced.

Every effort is made to prevent their encampment on vacant land, and action is taken in conjunction with the Police.

During the year, forty caravans were removed after notice.

5.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**(a) MILK SUPPLY.**

At the end of the year there were fifty-three entries on the Register of Cowkeepers, Dairymen and Retail Purveyors of Milk as follows:—

Cowkeepers (wholesale traders)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
„ (and Retail Purveyors)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Retail Purveyors (premises within the Borough)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	35
„ „ (premises outside the Borough)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	14
Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	53

During the year four Retail Purveyors were removed from the Register, having given up business, and five additional Retail Purveyors were registered.

The four producers were granted licences by the Surrey County Council for the production and sale of “ Accredited ” Milk.

Routine inspections of all cowsheds and dairy premises have been carried out, and it has been found that the provisions of the Milk & Dairies Order, 1926, have been well observed.

Two Milk Depots have been erected during the year, one in Epsom and one in Ewell. The new premises in Epsom have replaced an old dairy which has now been demolished.

At the end of the year there were approximately 150 milch cows in the Borough exclusive of those kept at the L.C.C. Farms.

In accordance with Article 6 (4) of the Milk & Dairies Order, 1926, a list of all Cowkeepers in the Borough was forwarded to the Surrey County Council. A list as per the Corporation’s Register of all Wholesale and Retail Purveyors of Milk was also sent to the Secretary of the Office of Trade Boards as requested.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

The following licences to sell graded milk were granted in 1938:—

“ Tuberculin Tested ” (Dealers)	.....	.....	.....	7
“ ” (Supplementary)	.....	.....	.....	1
“ ” Pasteurised (Supplementary)	.....	.....	.....	1
Pasteurisers	.....	.....	.....	1
“ Pasteurised ” (Dealers)	.....	.....	.....	8
“ ” (Supplementary)	.....	.....	.....	2
Total				20

MILK SAMPLING.

During the year fifty-nine samples of milk were taken at farms and from Retail Purveyors. The samples were immediately dispatched to the Clinical Research Association Ltd., London, for bacteriological examination.

Table II shows the number of tests carried out and an analysis of the results.

In each case of an unsatisfactory sample, the Dairyman was informed and requested to take steps to improve the standard of cleanliness of the milk.

TABLE II.

	Total Bacterial Count.				Bacillus Coli Test				Methylene Blue Test.		Phosphatase Test.	
	No. Exd.	Highest.	Average	Lowest.	No. Exd.	Present in			No. Exd.	Satisfactory.	No. Exd.	Satisfactory.
						1/10 c.c.	1/100 c.c.	1/1000 c.c.				
Ordinary	30	255,000	47,302	1,850	40	7	7	—	40	36	—	—
“ Accredited ”	2	58,500	52,500	46,500	2	—	—	—	2	2	—	—
“ Pasteurised ”	15	30,500	12,215	590	15	—	—	—	—	—	17	17

Total number of samples taken 59.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS. SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

One slaughter-house was removed from the Register during the year, the premises being demolished under the High Street Widening Scheme.

There are now only two slaughter-houses in the Borough, one in Epsom and one in Ewell, both of which are “ Registered ” slaughter-houses.

The periodical limewashing was carried out and the premises have been kept in a clean and satisfactory condition.

Table III shows the number of animals killed at these slaughter-houses,

TABLE III.
CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (if known)	—	—	2	—	351
Number inspected	—	—	2	—	351
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis—</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	13
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	3.7%
<i>Tuberculosis only—</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	15
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tubercu- losis	—	—	—	—	4.27%

In addition to the above, 20 lbs. of meat and offal from local butchers was found unfit for human food and surrendered for disposal at the Corporation's Refuse Destructor.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

One new and fourteen applications for the renewal of licences to slaughter animals under the above Act were received and considered by the Council.

In each case the licence was granted.

BUTCHERS' SHOPS AND STALLS, ETC.

There are thirty-nine butchers' shops in the Borough, also one market stall, which have been periodically inspected. A refrigerator or other means of cold storage is provided at each shop, and thirty-three of the shops have permanent glass windows to protect the meat from dust, etc., from the highway.

Additional sanitary accommodation and washing facilities have been provided at two shops, and at ten others minor repairs and cleansing were carried out on request.

OTHER FOOD PREMISES.

Inspections have been made of shops and other premises where food is prepared or sold. In twenty-two cases minor repairs and cleansing were found necessary, the work being carried out after verbal or written Notice.

ADULTERATION OF FOODS, ETC.

The Surrey County Council are the authorities for the administration of the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act. I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for the information that thirty samples of milk, three of butter and eleven of other articles were analysed during 1938. In respect of a sample of "chocolate roll" which was found to be unsatisfactory, prosecution was undertaken and a conviction obtained. Other unsatisfactory samples on account of which no action was instituted included a further sample of chocolate roll, two samples of orange juice and one sample of orange quarters.

6.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

(1) NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Table IV shows the total of the various infectious diseases notified during 1938, classified according to age, together with the number of cases removed to isolation hospital, and the total deaths from each disease. Table V shows the number of cases notified from the Surrey County Hospital and the London County Council Hospitals. Comparison of Table IV and Table V indicates that the presence of these institutions has a considerable effect on the incidence of certain infectious diseases.

SMALLPOX.—No case of smallpox was notified during the year. No primary vaccination or re-vaccination was performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

SCARLET FEVER.—Fifty-four cases of scarlet fever were notified during the year compared with sixty-six in 1937. The case-rate per 1,000 population was 0.9 compared with the rate of 2.41 for England and Wales as a whole.

The disease was generally of a mild character and no death occurred. Of the fifty-three cases occurring in private houses seven patients were nursed at home, equivalent to 13% of the total cases notified. The remaining patients were admitted to the Cuddington Isolation Hospital for treatment, with the exception of one case notified from a London County Council Hospital, in which instance the patient was removed to one of the County Council's London Fever Hospitals.

In addition, one patient was removed to the Cuddington Hospital for observation for the disease, but the diagnosis was not confirmed.

DIPHTHERIA.—Seventeen cases of diphtheria were notified, compared with fifteen cases in the previous year. The case-rate per 1,000 population was 0.29 compared with the rate of 1.58 for England and Wales as a whole. One death was registered as being caused by diphtheria, equivalent to a death rate of 0.02 per thousand population, compared with the rate of 0.07 for the whole Country.

One patient was nursed at home, satisfactory isolation and nursing having been arranged. The remaining cases were admitted to the Isolation Hospital, and in addition four other patients were admitted as possibly suffering from diphtheria, but in whom the diagnosis was not confirmed after further observation.

ANTITOXIN.—The Council have an arrangement with the following chemists whereby diphtheria antitoxin is available free of charge for emergency use at any hour of the day or night. It is necessary that the request shall come from a medical practitioner and that the address of the patient for whom the material is required shall be within the area of the Borough.

Mr. S. A. Best, 6, High Street, Epsom, and at
17, High Street, Ewell, and
14, The Broadway, Stoneleigh.
Messrs. Harsant & Lee, 127, High Street, Epsom.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.—Progress has been made during the year with the Council's scheme for immunisation against diphtheria. Under this scheme clinics are held at fortnightly intervals at the County Council clinics in Waterloo Road, Epsom, and at Ewell Court, Ewell. Attendance at these clinics is free of charge to residents of the Borough, and during 1938 597 children received treatment.

For parents who desire to have their children treated by their regular medical practitioner, arrangements are made for the material to be supplied free of charge on application by the doctor to the Medical Officer of Health, the fee for treatment being a matter for private arrangement between the parents and the practitioner. The material is available in two forms, T.A.F. for use in three injections, and A.P.T. for the one or two injection methods.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.—One case of ophthalmia neonatorum was notified. As the Maternity and Child Welfare Authority for the area, the Surrey County Council makes any necessary provision for the institutional treatment of infants suffering from this disease.

MALARIA.—One primary case of malaria was notified, the patient being a child resident on one of the Council's Housing Estates. The case was investigated in co-operation with officials of the Ministry of Health, but the source of infection was not ascertained. In addition sixteen notifications were received from the London County Council Institutions in respect of patients in whom the disease had been induced as a form of treatment, and who, having been discharged, might be regarded as being liable to relapses of the disease. The places of permanent residence of these patients being situated outside this district, chiefly in various Metropolitan Boroughs, the notifications were forwarded to the respective Public Health Departments concerned.

ENTERIC FEVER.—Two notifications of typhoid fever were received, both in respect of patients at the L.C.C. Institutions. This represents a case-rate per 1,000 population of 0.04 compared with the rate for the whole Country of 0.03. No death was registered as being due to enteric fever, the death rate for England and Wales being nil.

PNEUMONIA.—Twenty-four notifications of pneumonia were received, of which twelve were in respect of inmates of County Council Institutions.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.—Sixteen cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified, representing a case-rate of 17.1 per 1,000 total births, compared with the rate of 14.42 for England and Wales. This apparently high rate is accounted for by the fact that of the eleven notifications received in respect of women in the maternity ward of the Epsom County Hospital, nine related to persons not normally resident in the Epsom and Ewell district. When this fact is taken into consideration, the local rate is considerably below the National rate given above. One death was registered as being due to puerperal sepsis, giving a death rate of 1.07 per thousand total births, compared with the rate for the whole Country of 0.86.

ERYSIPELAS.—Twenty-five notifications were received, of which fourteen were in respect of private residents of the district and eleven of patients in the County Council Institutions.

TABLE IV.

Disease	Cases Notified.													Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital.	Deaths.
	Under 1.	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over.	At all ages.		
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	1	1	8	22	9	4	5	3	1	—	54	47	—
Diphtheria	—	—	3	1	—	7	2	1	2	1	1	—	18	17	1
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	—
Pneumonia	1	1	—	—	2	1	1	1	3	3	7	4	24	—	26*
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	13	5	25	2	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	2	—	—	16	—	1
Dysentery	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	4	2	10	4	—
Ophthalmia															
Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Anterior Poliomyelitis	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
	2	3	4	2	10	23	12	6	31	12	27	11	153	70	28

* All forms.

TABLE V. INSTITUTION CASES.

Disease.	Cases notified in—		
	L.C.C. Hospitals.	County Hospital.	Total.
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	1	1
Diphtheria	1	2	3
Enteric Fever	2	—	2
Pneumonia	11	1	12
Erysipelas	10	1	11
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	11	11
Dysentery	5	4	9
Total	29	20	49

TUBERCULOSIS.

Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis which came to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health during the year are set out in Table VI, together with an analysis of the deaths in the area from the disease during the same period. The new cases include, in addition to those officially notified, twenty patients who came into the district from other districts in which they had already been notified, and seven of persons who died from tuberculosis without previous notification. Un-notified tuberculous deaths therefore constituted 41% of the total tuberculous deaths. Of these seven patients five were inmates of the L.C.C. Institutions, and enquiries into the reason for non-notification elicited the information that two of the patients had been notified before death, the notifications having been sent to districts in which the patients had been resident prior to admission to Hospital, and no transfer of the particulars having been made; in two cases the disease was not confirmed until post-mortem examinations had been made, and in the remaining case the absence of notification was due to an oversight. The two private patients dying un-notified both suffered from acute forms of the disease in which death occurred within a short period, and before notification had been made.

The sixteen deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis represent an annual death rate of 0.27 per thousand population, compared with the rate of 0.53 for England and Wales as a whole. No death was caused by non-pulmonary tuberculosis, the death rate for the whole Country being 0.10.

The total tuberculosis death rate for the district is therefore 0.27, compared with the figure of 0.63 for England and Wales.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

EPSOM, LEATHERHEAD AND DISTRICT TUBERCULOSIS
CARE COMMITTEE.

This Voluntary Committee continued its work during the year. The Officers of the Committee are as follows:—Chairman, John Wallace, Esq., J.P.; Vice-Chairman, T. F. Devitt, Esq., J.P.; Secretary, Mrs. H. James; Treasurer, P. W. Tebbutt, Esq., Manager of the Epsom Branch, Westminster Bank. The Medical Officer of Health, the district Tuberculosis Officer, the Health Visitors working in the area, and the Relieving Officer attend the meetings of the Committee.

Briefly, the aim of the Committee is to render assistance to tuberculous persons, particularly in the difficult period following the patient's discharge from sanatorium or hospital. At this time, much of the benefit derived from institutional treatment, often of a costly nature, may be lost for one of the following reasons:—

(1) As a result of adverse economic conditions the patient may be obliged to return to unsuitable employment.

(2) As a result of illness, employment may have been lost, with consequent anxiety as to the future and a loss of morale.

(3) As a result of poor home circumstances, the patient's diet may be insufficient or improper, and his surroundings may be unhealthy, both factors which may cause deterioration in health.

In addition, an important duty of the Committee is to interest itself in the welfare of dependants of tuberculous persons, particularly children, and thus to take a part in preventing the spread of infection.

TABLE VI.

Age Period.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary. M. F.		Non- pulmonary. M. F.		Pulmonary. M. F.		Non- pulmonary M. F.	
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 10	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 to 15	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
15 to 20	3	1	—	2	1	—	—	—
20 to 25	4	4	—	2	1	—	—	—
25 to 35	14	16	2	2	3	1	—	—
35 to 45	12	4	1	2	4	—	—	—
45 to 55	1	2	—	1	1	2	—	—
55 to 65	6	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
65 and upwards	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals	44	28	4	9	13	3	—	—

LEATHERHEAD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health :

CYRUS IVE, M.B., B.S.(Lond.), M.R.C.S.(Eng.), L.R.C.P.(Lond.), D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

SIDNEY R. DRAKE, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Sanitary Inspector :

W. J. WHITING, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Certified Meat Inspector.

Clerical Staff :

K. G. BEWICK, Cert. S.I.B., and P. HUNT, Clerical Assistants to Medical Officer of Health.

E. W. BUGDEN, Clerk to Sanitary Inspector.

(The Medical Officer of Health and his Clerical Assistants act in a similar capacity for the Borough of Epsom and Ewell, the Urban District of Dorking and the Rural District of Dorking and Horley.)

LEATHERHEAD URBAN DISTRICT

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1938

1.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (acres)	11,187
Population (Census 1931)	16,483
Population (estimated mid-year, 1938)	21,170
Density (persons per acre)	1.9
Number of private families or separate occupiers (Census 1931)	4,274
New houses certified, 1938	270
Number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Books, 31st December, 1938	6,060
Rateable Value at 31st December, 1938	£241,380
Sum represented by a Penny Rate.....	£888

The district is largely residential and agricultural. Local industries include engineering works, cable manufacturing, ladder making and cellulose paint manufacturing. There is no evidence that any of these occupations is detrimental to the health of the workers.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
Live Births—				
Total	320	166	154	} Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated re- sident popula- tion 15.11
Legitimate	310	162	148	
Illegitimate	10	4	6	

	<i>Total</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
Still Births—				
Total	5	4	1	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 15.41
Legitimate	5	4	1	
Illegitimate	—	—	—	
Deaths (net)	172	87	85	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident popu- lation 8.12
Deaths from Puerperal Causes				Nil
Total deaths of infants under one year of age				3
Death rate of infants under one year of age—				
All infants per 1,000 live births				9.38
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births				6.45
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births				100.0
Deaths from measles (all ages)				Nil
Deaths from whooping cough (all ages)				Nil
Deaths from diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)				Nil

Table I shows a comparison of statistics for the Urban District of Leatherhead from the year 1881 up to date with similar figures for the whole of England and Wales.

BIRTHS.

The total live births accredited to the area by the Registrar General were 320, of which 166 were of males and 154 of females. This total represents a birth rate of 15.11 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, compared with the rate of 15.1 for England and Wales as a whole. In the same period 5 still-births were registered, giving a still-birth rate of 0.24 compared with the National rate of 0.6 per 1,000 total live and still births.

DEATHS.

The deaths accredited to the area after correction for inward and outward transfers were 172. This represents a crude death rate of 8.12 per 1,000 of the resident population, compared with the rate of 11.6 for England and Wales as a whole.

In order that the mortality of the district may be properly compared with the mortality for the whole country it is necessary, however, to eliminate differences caused by variation in the composition of the two populations as regards age and sex. For this purpose an areal

comparability factor has been supplied by the Registrar General, and when applied to the crude death rate of the district an adjusted death rate of 7.5 is obtained. This figure gives a true comparison with the national figure of 11.6 and is an important indication of the healthy conditions prevailing in the area.

The causes of death are set out in Table II.

INFANT MORTALITY.

The deaths of infants under one year of age numbered three (two males and one female). This gives an infant mortality rate for the year of 9.38 per thousand live births, compared with the rate of 53 for England and Wales.

TABLE I.—COMPARATIVE BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES.

Period.	Average Annual Birth Rate per 1,000 living. (Annual Rates 1931—1938)		Average Annual Crude Death Rate per 1,000 (Annual Rates 1931—1938)		Average Annual Infant Mortality Rate† (Annual Rates 1931—1938)	
	England & Wales.	Leatherhead U.D.	England & Wales.	Leatherhead U.D.	England & Wales.	Leatherhead U.D.
1881—1890	32.4	29.5	19.1	15.6	142	103
1891—1900	29.9	22.7	18.2	11.6	153	128
1901—1910	27.2	22.0	15.4	12.0	128	80
1911—1920	21.8	17.0	14.4*	9.2	100	56
1921—1930	18.3	16.3	12.1	10.0	72	40
1931	15.8	12.8	12.3	10.7	66	33
1932	15.3	11.4	12.0	8.5	65	58
1933	14.4	12.8	12.3	9.3	64	30
1934	14.8	13.2	11.8	9.0 (8.5)	59	52
1935	14.7	13.6	11.7	9.4 (8.8)	57	30
1936	14.8	12.6	12.1	9.3 (8.7)	59	35
1937	14.9	15.0	12.4	9.1 (8.6)	58	26
1938	15.1	15.1	11.6	8.1 (7.5)	53	9

† *i.e.*, Deaths of children under one year of age per 1,000 births.

* Including civilian mortality only from 1915—1920.

The death rate figures in parentheses have been adjusted by a "comparability factor" (see page 59).

TABLE II.—CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE LEATHERHEAD URBAN DISTRICT.

<i>Cause of Death.</i>						<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
2.	Measles	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
3.	Scarlet Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
5.	Diphtheria	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
6.	Influenza	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	—	2
7.	Encephalitis Lethargica	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	—	1
8.	Cerebro-spinal Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
9.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	2	6
10.	Other Tuberculosis	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
11.	Syphilis	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
12.	General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
13.	Cancer, Malignant Disease	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	14	24
14.	Diabetes	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	4
15.	Cerebral Haemorrhage	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	9	13
16.	Heart Disease	.....	.....	.....	.....	22	27	49
17.	Aneurysm	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
18.	Other Circulatory Diseases	.....	.....	.....	.....	8	8	16
19.	Bronchitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	—	2
20.	Pneumonia (all forms)	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	1	6
21.	Other Respiratory Diseases	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	1	5
22.	Peptic Ulcer	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	1	5
23.	Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
24.	Appendicitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	1	1
25.	Cirrhosis of Liver	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
26.	Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	1	1
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	4
28.	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	1	7
29.	Puerperal Sepsis	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
30.	Other puerperal Causes	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
31.	Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	—	2
32.	Senility	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	4	7
33.	Suicide	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
34.	Other Violence	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	2
35.	Other defined Diseases	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	9	14
36.	Causes ill-defined or unknown	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	1	1
Special causes (included in No. 35 above)—								
	Smallpox	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
	Poliomyelitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
	Polioencephalitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
All causes						87	85	172

2.—GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(1) INFECTIOUS DISEASES. The motor ambulance maintained by the Cuddington Joint Hospital Board is used for the removal of all cases of infectious disease.

(2) NON-INFECTIOUS AND ACCIDENT CASES. A motor ambulance owned by the Leatherhead Urban District Council and garaged at Messrs. Karn Brothers' Garage, Randalls Road, Leatherhead ('phone Leatherhead 3031), serves for all other cases.

Members of the Men's Detachment of the British Red Cross Society' Surrey 17, stand by during the week-ends in the Summer for road accidents and assisted with 140 cases out of the 155 cases dealt with during the year.

In 1938 the ambulance was used for 37 accidents and 118 sickness cases—155 cases in all—and travelled a distance of 2,660 miles.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Specimens taken by medical practitioners are sent for bacteriological examination to Dr. K. Hughes, Pathologist to the Sutton and Cheam Hospital, or to the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine. During the year 1938 the number of examinations made was as follows—

For the diagnosis of Diphtheria	.....	.....	71
„ „ „ „ Tuberculosis	.....	.....	37
„ „ „ „ Enteric Fever	.....	.....	5

Laboratory examinations required to establish the diagnosis of suspected venereal disease in a communicable stage are arranged for under the Surrey County Council's Venereal Diseases scheme. Samples of milk are sent to the Clinical Research Association and of water to the Counties Public Health Laboratories.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) GENERAL NURSING. There are three Nursing Associations in the District which carry out this work. The Ashted Nursing Association maintains two nurses, the Bookham Nursing Association two nurses and the Leatherhead Nursing Association two nurses. The area of the Bookham Nursing Association extends into Fetcham and Effingham, and a car is used to cover this wide area.

(b) NURSING OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE. There is no special provision for the nursing of such cases.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

The Surrey County Council are the Local Authority for maternity and child welfare and for education. Welfare centres and school clinics

are held in Leatherhead, Great Bookham, Fetcham and Ashtead as follows—

<i>Centre.</i>	<i>Clinic.</i>	<i>Time Held.</i>
Peace Memorial Hall, Ash- tead.	Infant Welfare and School Clinic.	2nd and 4th Tuesday 1.30—4 p.m.
Barn Hall, Bookham	Infant Welfare and School Clinic.	1st and 3rd Wednesday 1.30—4 p.m.
Village Hall, Fetcham	Infant Welfare and School Clinic.	2nd and 4th Thursday 1.30—4 p.m.
The Institute, Leatherhead	Infant Welfare	Every Friday 2—4 p.m.
	General Medical	1st and 3rd Friday 9.30 a.m.—12 noon
	Eye	2nd Friday 9.30 a.m.— 12 noon
	Dental	Mondays and Wednesdays 9.30 a.m.—12 noon, and 1.45—4 p.m.
	Ante-natal	1st, 3rd and 5th Fridays a.m.

The County Council are also responsible for the provision of treatment for tuberculosis and venereal diseases. Tuberculosis dispensaries are provided in Epsom and Dorking. Clinics for the treatment of venereal diseases are available at the Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford; the Croydon General Hospital, and at many of the voluntary hospitals in the London area.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

General medical and surgical cases are admitted to the Leatherhead Cottage Hospital, which maintains a total of 21 beds, with X-ray, massage and electrical departments.

Cases of notifiable infectious diseases, other than smallpox, are admitted to the Cuddington Hospital, Banstead. This hospital is maintained by the Cuddington Joint Hospital Board, of which the Leatherhead Urban District Council is a constituent member.

Cases of smallpox occurring in the district are admitted to the Surrey Smallpox Hospital, which is maintained by the Surrey County Council at Clandon.

The Surrey County Council is responsible for the provision of institutional treatment for persons suffering from tuberculosis.

3.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

The statutory undertaking for the supply of water in the district is the East Surrey Water Company. The source of supply is from boreholes into the chalk, situated in Leatherhead.

No new source of supply has been brought into use during 1938, neither have any important extensions of mains been made in the Leatherhead Urban District.

Throughout the year the water obtained from the boreholes has been satisfactory, both in regard to quality and quantity.

Bacteriological analyses of both the raw and the treated water are made every month, and chemical analyses are made every three months.

In addition, the practice of chlorination and dechlorination of all chalk water has been conscientiously carried out throughout the year.

Independent samples have been taken by the Public Health Department and submitted for examination. Particulars of a typical sample are reproduced below.

RESULTS.

<i>Chemical</i>	<i>Parts per 100,000</i>
Appearance	Clear and bright
Colour	Normal
Odour	Nil
Reaction pH	Neutral 7.4
Free Carbonic acid	Nil
Electric conductivity at 20°C	240
Total solids, dried at 180°C	16.0
Chlorine in Chlorides	2.2
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	4.5
Hardness : Total	8.0
Temporary	2.5
Permanent	5.5
Nitrogen in Nitrates	0.40
Nitrogen in Nitrites	Absent
Free Ammonia	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	Nil
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	Nil
Albuminoid Nitrogen	Nil
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 80°F	0.010
Metals	Absent
<i>Bacteriological</i>	
Number of bacteria growing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in one day at 37°C.	0
Number of bacteria growing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in two days at 37°C	1
Number of bacteria growing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in three days at 20°C	2
The Bacillus coli	Not found in 100 c.c.
Bacillus Welchii (B. Enteritidis Sporogenes)	Not found in 100 c.c.

Report.

This sample is clear and bright and of normal colour. The water is neutral in reaction, of very moderate hardness, contains no excess of saline or mineral matter in solution, no metals, is of good organic quality, and a high degree of bacterial purity.

It is, therefore, considered pure and wholesome in character, and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

There are two sewage disposal works in the district, one at Leatherhead and the other at Bookham. Both processes are on continuous flow settlement, comprising detritus tanks, settlement tanks, rotary filters, etc.

At Bookham the effluent passes through a humus tank and thence by the outfall sewer to a ditch adjacent, finally reaching the River Mole.

The Leatherhead Sewage Disposal works consist of detritus channels, primary and secondary sedimentation tanks, rotary and travelling distributors, humus tanks, etc. Land treatment is now only used for the treatment of surface water. The effluent, after final treatment at the humus tanks, is discharged into a concrete channel and conveyed to the River Mole.

Sludge is disposed of by mixing with screened and pulverised house refuse, the resultant manure being sold to a firm of agricultural merchants and to ratepayers.

There has been considerable trouble in the past through the surcharging of trunk sewers in the Leatherhead and Ashted Wards. These sewers became surcharged during heavy rain and caused flooding in various parts along the low levels.

The reconstruction of the Leatherhead trunk sewer has overcome the difficulty in Leatherhead, and work has commenced on enlarging the Ashted trunk sewer to remedy the trouble in that Ward.

Several lengths of new sewer have been laid during the year by the Council and by the developers of new Estates in the area.

During the year thirty-eight existing properties have been connected to the sewer in various parts of the district, and the old cesspools filled in.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The collection of house refuse is undertaken by means of four low-loading Shelvoke and Drewry freighters, each with a capacity of seven cubic yards. The collection is now entirely mechanical, an additional vehicle having been purchased by the Council during the year.

The tip in Guildford Road is not now used for the disposal of house refuse. House refuse from the whole area is disposed of at the Leatherhead Sewage Disposal works, where a salvage and crushing plant has been installed. Clinker is retained by screening; bottles, tins, etc., removed on a picking belt; paper baled for sale, and the residue crushed, as mentioned above, and sold as a fertiliser.

The emptying of cesspools, earth closets and privies is not undertaken by the Council, but arrangements are made to ensure that at least one Contractor in the district is available for the work of emptying cesspools.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

A stream on the Ashtead boundary of the Urban District was found to be polluted by overflow from cesspools in the vicinity, but it is hoped that the extension of the sewer to the area will be accomplished in 1939, which will result in complete abatement of nuisance from this source.

Another stream running past a factory in Bookham was found to be in a polluted condition, which was traced to the disposal of trade effluent through the surface water drains by inexperienced workmen. Pollution ceased when the management warned the workmen against this practice.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Water closets are in general use throughout the district, although in a few isolated cases pail closets still remain.

Six pail closets were converted to water closets during the year.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

I am indebted to Mr. S. R. Drake, Chief Sanitary Inspector, for the following details of the work of his department during the year—

INSPECTIONS AND RE-INSPECTIONS UNDER HOUSING AND PUBLIC
HEALTH ACTS, Etc.

HEADERS, ETC.								No. of Visits
Dwelling-houses	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	663
Slaughterhouses	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	425
Common Lodging Houses	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Bakehouses	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Factories (excluding Bakehouses)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16
Dairies	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	45
Cowsheds	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
Milkshops	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15
								1,194

CONDITIONS REQUIRING THE SERVICE OF A NOTICE FOUND DURING
THE YEAR.

	THE YEAR.							<i>Number</i>
Defective roofs								18
No handrail to stairs								31
Defective plastering								18
Defective fireplaces								3
Defective ceilings								11
Defective walls								17
Defective windows								27
Defective floors								24
Defective doors								4
Defective stairs								2
Insufficient lighting and ventilation								11
Damp walls								89

	<i>Number</i>
Houses requiring decorations (258 rooms)	113
No trap to sink waste	39
Overflowing cesspools	10
Defective rainwater pipes and gutters	19
Defective drains	33
Defective sinks	23
Paving absent	10
Defective water closets	21
Defective cistern and/or flush pipe	11
Drainage to be connected to main sewer	7
Unsatisfactory water supply	3
Defective kitcheners	14
Defective coppers	1
Defective ashbins	36
Insufficient provision for surface water drainage	2
Repair gas leak	1
New pail for closet	1

RESULTS OF SERVICE OF NOTICE.

	<i>Number</i>
Roofs repaired	21
Handrails provided to stairs	20
Plastering repaired	5
Fireplaces repaired	5
Ceilings repaired	8
Defective wall repaired	9
Windows repaired	23
Floors repaired	18
Doors repaired	3
Stairs repaired	1
Lighting and ventilation improved	8
Dampness in walls remedied	68
Houses redecorated (180 rooms)	89
Traps provided to sink wastes	49
Overflowing cesspools emptied	11
Rainwater pipes and gutters repaired	7
Drains repaired	26
Drainage connected to sewer	6
New sinks provided	9
Paving provided	3
Water closets repaired	19
Cisterns and/or flush pipes repaired	5
New pail provided to pail closet	1
Kitcheners repaired or renewed	6
Coppers repaired	2
Ashbins provided	23
Sufficient provision for surface water drainage	1
Gas leak repaired	1

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No excessive emanations of smoke were proved during the year.

There was a repetition of the annoyance caused by grit and dust in the neighbourhood of a tarmacadam works, however, but this was soon abated on taking the matter up with the manufacturers.

SWIMMING POOLS.

There are five privately owned swimming pools in the district, one natural and four constructed. They are provided with adequate dressing and sanitary accommodation and the constructed pools have filtering and chlorinating plants installed. Colour tests to control the dosage of chlorine are made by the proprietors periodically and if requested, at each visit of the Sanitary Inspector.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

Considerable difficulty has been experienced in controlling the parking of gypsy caravans in the district, the two points where it mostly occurs being Ashted Gap, Leatherhead, and River Lane, Fetcham. Few people welcome their presence in the neighbourhood, and none appear anxious to provide properly organised accommodation for them. Their nomadic behaviour tends to bring them outside the scope of the Public Health Act, 1936, and for this reason it was felt preferable to retain the operation in the district of Part VII of the Surrey County Council Act, 1931. Under this Act, on production of evidence of prejudice to amenities, a Court of Summary Jurisdiction may make an order for removal of the caravans, and prohibit other similar structures from future occupation of land within a radius of 200 yards.

An Order was obtained in respect of each of the foregoing sites. In the case of River Lane, Fetcham, the action has so far met with success, though at Ashted Gap it can only be regretted that chains were not prescribed instead of yards.

The sheds referred to in my last report were completely evacuated at the beginning of the year.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are no offensive trades carried on in the area.

SHOPS.

No action was found necessary under the sections of the Shops Act, 1934, dealing with the provision of sanitary conveniences and the regulation of temperature and ventilation.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 and 1928.

No establishments in the district to which these Acts apply, now use rag flock.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

In the course of routine housing inspections, or as the result of complaints, five Council houses and eight private houses were found to be infested. These were disinfested by the staff of the Local Authority, using "Zaldecide," "Sulphume," and "Cescone" insecticides according to circumstances and with apparently successful results.

An inspector makes a routine examination of the belongings of tenants selected for Council houses prior to removal, in order to ensure, as far as possible, that they are vermin free. In addition, each Council house which falls vacant is also subjected to examination for the same purpose. During the year nineteen Council houses, and the furniture and effects of forty-eight prospective tenants were inspected, of which one Council house was found to be infested and suitable measures were taken to disinfest it before it was reoccupied.

The furniture and effects of all families from Clearance Areas rehoused by the Council, were removed by the Council's Contractors in specially constructed vans and treated with Hydrogen Cyanide gas in course of transit to the new premises.

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.

(1) INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers prosecuted. (4)
Factories (With mechanical power)	12	2	—
Factories (Without mechanical power)	10	1	—
† Other Premises under the Act (Including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises)	—	—	—
Total	22	3	—

† Electrical Stations should be reckoned as factories.

(2) DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1)	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)—				
Insufficient	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences	3	3	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)				
Total	5	5	—	—

OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES.

(Section 108 of Act of 1901 ; Section III of Act of 1937.)

No action was necessary.

SCHOOLS.

The sanitary arrangements at one Church of England School have been modernised by the replacement of automatically flushed trough closets with separate wash-down closets and individual flushing apparatus.

4.—HOUSING.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

I.—Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :

1. (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	267
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	663
2. (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	210
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	497

3.	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	8
4.	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	225

II.—Remedy of defects during the year without Service of formal Notices :

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	174
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III.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year :

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	4
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a) By Owners	2
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	—

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	4
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By Owners	2
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	2

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	1
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	—

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	—

IV.—Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding :

(a)	(i)	Number of dwelling houses overcrowded at the end of the year	14
	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein	14
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein	97
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	4
(c)	(1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	20
	(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	137
(d)		Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil
(e)		Seven cases of overcrowding were abated by transfer of the families to Council Houses, while thirteen families abated overcrowding in advance of action by the Council.	

SLUM CLEARANCE.

The occupants of fifty-five houses in respect of which Clearance Orders were confirmed in 1937, vacated these houses during 1938, the majority by removing to houses built for the purpose on the Council's new Housing Estate off Cleeve Road. The whole fifty-five houses were demolished by the end of the year.

A further Clearance Order in respect of seven houses was made and confirmed in 1938, and will become operative at the beginning of 1939.

RE-HOUSING.

Good progress was made during the year in the erection and completion of fifty-six houses to replace those demolished under Clearance Orders, and it was decided to erect a further sixty-three houses on the same estate to meet the demands in connection with impending schemes, the abatement of overcrowding, and general needs. The second part of the scheme neared completion by the end of the year, and its success is reflected in the progress made in the abatement of overcrowding.

The large list of applicants for Council houses shows that there is a serious shortage in the district of accommodation suitable for the working classes at a rent which they can reasonably afford. This is also apparent on reviewing the rents charged for such houses erected by private enterprise, and a further contributory factor is the gradual de-control of existing houses. The result is that for both numerical and economical reasons the average three-bedroomed parlour type house is being increasingly occupied by two families, with little, if any, alteration to the structure or addition to existing conveniences.

In this direction, to satisfy the "general needs" will be to remedy serious handicaps under which a large proportion of the community now exist.

DISINFECTION.

Thirteen premises were disinfected after notifiable infectious disease during the year, and six for other reasons.

5.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

Number of Cowkeepers	15
Number of Dairymen (exclusive of above)	4
Number of Retail Purveyors of Milk	17

Inspections of all cowsheds, dairies and milkshops were made during the year, and all were found to be satisfactory.

One cowshed and dairy was newly established on old premises during the year, and after prolonged pressure on the occupier the accommodation eventually attained a moderate standard of efficiency.

BACTERIOLOGICAL CONTROL OF MILK.

Fifty-one samples of raw, ungraded milk were taken and forwarded to the laboratories of the Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford, for bacteriological examination.

It may be noted that of the fifty-one samples examined, forty-five reached the standard laid down for Accredited Milk (satisfying the methylene blue test and the *Bacillus Coli* absent in 1/100 millilitre). Of the remainder, three failed to reach this standard, but did not fall seriously below it, while three samples were well below the standard. When an adverse report was received, the result was communicated to the retailer concerned, inspection of the dairy premises made, improvement suggested if necessary, and re-sampling carried out at a later date.

A sample of milk taken from the Licensed Pasteurising establishment in the district satisfied the Phosphatase Test. Periodical inspections of the plant also showed the temperatures to be well maintained within the prescribed limits.

It should be noted that these precautions deal entirely with the cleanliness of milk. No special bacteriological examinations are made for the tubercle bacillus.

DESIGNATED MILK SUPPLY.

The following licences were issued to retailers desiring to retail graded milks—

Tuberculin Tested Milk—				
Dealer's licence .....	.....	.....	.....	3
Supplementary licence .....	.....	.....	.....	3
Accredited Milk—				
Dealer's licence .....	.....	.....	.....	1
Pasteurised Milk—				
Pasteuriser's Licence .....	.....	.....	.....	1
Dealer's licence .....	.....	.....	.....	1
Supplementary licence .....	.....	.....	.....	3

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

There are four slaughter-houses in the district, three of which are registered and one licensed. They have been kept in a satisfactory condition throughout the year.

The number of visits made during the year was 425, and 2,914 animals were slaughtered and examined. This total was made up as follows—

Beasts	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	28
Calves	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	244
Sheep	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	717
Lambs	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	459
Pigs	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,466
							2,914

Table III gives details of meat found unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered and destroyed.

TABLE III.

					For Tuberculosis	For other Diseases.	Total.
Cows—							
Lungs (pair)	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	—	1
Liver	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	1	1
CALVES—							
Liver	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	1	1
SHEEP—							
Entire carcase and organs	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	2	2
Liver	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	1	1
PIGS—							
Entire carcase and organs	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	2	5
Heads	.....	.....	.....	.....	19	—	19
Plucks	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	1	7
Lungs (pairs)	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	—	1
Livers	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	22	22
Mesenteries	.....	.....	.....	.....	18	—	18
Spleens	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	2	8
Kidney	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	1	1
Legs	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	1	1
Hindquarters	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	1	1

Table IV shows the number and percentage of animals in which disease was found either in the whole carcase and organs or parts thereof.

TABLE IV.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.	Total.
Number killed	26	2	244	1176	1466	2914
Number inspected	26	2	244	1176	1466	2914
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis—</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	2	2	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	1	1	1	28	31
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	—	50	0.4	0.25	2.04	1.2
<i>Tuberculosis only—</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	3	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	1	—	—	31	32
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	50	—	—	2.32	1.2

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

During the year eight applications for licences to slaughter animals under the Act were received, and all were granted after consideration by the Council. All applicants had been previously licensed.

(c) ADULTERATION OF FOODS, Etc.

The Surrey County Council are the authority for the administration of the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act. I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for the information that thirty-two samples of food were taken in the district and analysed during the year. These included twenty-six samples of milk, two of cream and four of other articles. Five samples of milk were found to be unsatisfactory and legal proceedings were instituted in respect of one of these, and a conviction obtained.

6.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

(1) NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Table V shows the totals of the various infectious diseases notified during 1938, classified according to age, together with the number of cases removed to isolation hospital and the total deaths from each disease.

SMALLPOX. No case of smallpox was notified during the year. No primary vaccination or re-vaccination was performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

SCARLET FEVER.—Fifteen notifications of scarlet fever were received as against twelve in 1937, giving a case-rate per thousand population of 0.7 compared with the rate of 2.41 for England and Wales as a whole.

Of the fifteen cases notified, permission was given for six patients to be nursed at home, after home conditions and nursing facilities had been found to be satisfactory. The remaining patients were admitted to the Cuddington Isolation Hospital for treatment.

No death was registered as being due to scarlet fever.

DIPHTHERIA.—Two cases of diphtheria were notified, compared with three in 1937. The case-rate per thousand population was 0.09 as against the rate of 1.58 for England and Wales. Both the patients were admitted to the Cuddington Isolation Hospital for treatment. In addition, three other patients were admitted to the Hospital for observation as possible cases of diphtheria, but the diagnosis was not confirmed.

No death was caused by diphtheria.

DIPHTHERIA ANTITOXIN. By arrangement with Mr. Gordon Hughes, Dispensing Chemist, of Bridge Street, Leatherhead, diphtheria antitoxin is available free of charge on request by medical practitioners at any hour of the day or night.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.—The Council's scheme for immunisation against diphtheria of children attending infant departments of elementary schools and infants attending welfare centres has been continued during the year, a total of 17 children having received the treatment during 1938. Provision is made for the treatment of other children living in the district by their private medical practitioners, the necessary material being supplied free of charge and the fee for treatment being a matter for arrangement between the patient and the doctor.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.—Three cases were notified, giving a case-rate per thousand total births of 9.23 compared with rate for the whole country of 14.42.

The Surrey County Council is the authority for Maternity and Child Welfare and in its scheme makes provision for any necessary institutional treatment, etc.

TABLE V.

Disease.	Cases Notified.													Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital.	Deaths.
	Under 1.	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over.	At all ages.		
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	2	1	—	7	1	1	3	—	—	—	15	9	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	2	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	4	4	1	1	13	—	6
Erysipelas	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	3	—	—
Totals	—	1	2	2	—	10	2	1	10	7	2	1	38	11	6

TUBERCULOSIS.

Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year are set out in Table VI, together with an analysis of the deaths in the area from the disease during the same period. The new cases include, in addition to those officially notified, thirteen patients who came into the district from other areas in which they had already been notified, and three persons who died without previous notification. Un-notified tuberculous deaths constituted 50 per cent. of the total tuberculous deaths.

The six deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis represent an annual death-rate of 0.28 per thousand population, compared with the National figure of 0.53. There were no deaths from non-pulmonary tuberculosis, the rate for the whole Country being 0.10. The total tuberculosis death rate for the year is therefore 0.28 compared with the figure of 0.63 for England and Wales as a whole.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

TABLE VI.

AGE PERIOD.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5 to 10	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
10 to 15	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 to 20	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 to 25	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
25 to 35	4	4	—	—	2	1	—	—
35 to 45	3	3	—	—	1	—	—	—
45 to 55	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 to 65	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	17	13	—	3	4	2	—	—

EPSOM, LEATHERHEAD AND DISTRICT TUBERCULOSIS CARE COMMITTEE.

This Voluntary Committee continued its work during the year. The Officers of the Committee are as follows—Chairman, John Wallace, Esq., J.P. ; Vice-Chairman, T. F. Devitt, Esq., J.P. ; Secretary, Mrs. H. James ; Treasurer, P. W. Tebbutt, Esq., Manager of the Epsom Branch, Westminster Bank. The Medical Officer of Health, the district Tuberculosis Officer, the Health Visitors working in the area, and the Relieving Officer attend the meetings of the Committee.

Briefly, the aim of the Committee is to render assistance to tuberculous persons, particularly in the difficult period following the patient's discharge from sanatorium or hospital. At this time, much of the benefit derived from institutional treatment, often of a costly nature, may be lost for one of the following reasons—

(1) As a result of adverse economic conditions the patient may be obliged to return to unsuitable employment.

(2) As a result of illness, employment may have been lost, with consequent anxiety as to the future, and a loss of morale.

(3) As a result of poor home circumstances, the patient's diet may be insufficient or improper, and his surroundings may be unhealthy, both factors which may cause deterioration in health.

In addition, an important duty of the Committee is to interest itself in the welfare of dependents of tuberculous persons, particularly children, and thus to take a part in preventing the spread of infection.

DORKING and HORLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health:

CYRUS IVE¹, M.B., B.S.(Lond.), M.R.C.S.(Eng.),
L.R.C.P.(Lond.), D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

F. E. TRAVISS², M.R.San.I.

Sanitary Inspectors:

G. SAWYER, A.M.Inst.M.&Cy.E., A.R.San.I.
T. H. LEE, A.R.San.I.

Sanitary Inspector's Assistant:

A. R. HEAD.

Clerical Staff:

K. G. BEWICK, Cert.S.I.B., and P. HUNT¹, Clerks to
Medical Officer of Health.
Miss M. JENNINGS and Miss A. M. SMITH,
clerical assistants to Sanitary Inspector.

¹ Acts in a similar capacity for the Borough of Epsom and Ewell, and the Dorking and Leatherhead Urban Districts.

² Also Surveyor for new buildings and Sewage Works.

DORKING and HORLEY RURAL DISTRICT.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1938.

1.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	53,718
Population (Census 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	18,485
Population (estimated mid-year 1938)	...	...	...	...	...	20,510
Density (persons per acre)	...	...	...	...	...	0.38
Number of private families or separate occupiers (Census 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	4,728
Number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Books at 31st December, 1938	...	...	...	...	...	6,145
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£194,941
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	£765

The acreage, population, number of inhabited houses and rateable values of the various Parishes in the Rural District are given in the following table—

<i>Parish.</i>	<i>Area (Acres).</i>	<i>Census Population.</i>		<i>No. of Inhab- ited houses.</i>	<i>Rateable Value. £</i>
		1921.	1931.		
Abinger	7,481	1,455	1,544	497	15,234
Betchworth	2,562	936	1,046	398	12,465
Buckland	1,362	410	473	154	7,177
Capel	5,694	1,459	1,782	597	16,426
Charlwood	6,901	2,015	2,284	674	21,916
Headley	1,640	521	487	122	6,604
Holmwood	3,749	835	891	236	9,579
Horley	7,449	5,722	7,137	2,561	79,155
Leigh	3,419	491	518	183	5,919
Newdigate	4,744	803	886	304	8,204
Ockley	3,400	625	703	229	6,342
Wotton	5,317	770	734	190	5,920

The district is largely agricultural, with many dairy farms. Horley, however, is now a residential area of considerable size and also has several factories situated within its boundaries. Industries elsewhere include limeworks at Betchworth and brickworks in several of the parishes.

There is no evidence that any of these occupations are detrimental to the health of the workers.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

Live Births—

		<i>Total.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>		
Total	...	302	161	141	} Birth Rate	14.72
Legitimate	...	291	153	138		
Illegitimate	...	11	8	3		

Still Births—

Total	...	16	11	5	} Rate per 1,000 total births ...	50.31
Legitimate	...	13	10	3		
Illegitimate	...	3	1	2		
Deaths (net)	...	227	112	115	Death Rate	11.07
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	...		Nil
Number of deaths of infants under one year of age	...					15

Death Rate of infants under one year of age—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	49.67
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...			51.55
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...			—

Deaths from—

Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	—
Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	...	...	...	...	1

Table I shows a comparison of statistics for the Dorking and Horley Rural District for the past six years with similar figures for the whole of England and Wales.

TABLE I.

Year	Annual Birth-rate per 1000 population.		Annual Death-rate per 1,000 population		Annual Infant Mortality rate*	
	England and Wales	Dorking and Horley	England and Wales	Dorking and Horley	England and Wales	Dorking and Horley
1933	14.4	13.4	12.3	12.2	64	25.9
1934	14.8	14.7	11.8	12.2 (10.7)	59	66.2
1935	14.7	14.2	11.7	11.3 (9.9)	57	32.9
1936	14.8	14.2	12.1	12.6 (11.1)	59	52.6
1937	14.9	13.6	12.4	11.8 (10.4)	58	32.4
1938	15.1	14.7	11.6	11.1 (9.7)	53	49.7

The local death rate figures in parentheses have been adjusted by the areal comparability factor (See page 82).

* *i.e.*, Deaths of children under one year of age per thousand live births.

BIRTHS.

The total births accredited to the area by the Registrar General were 302, of which 161 were of males and 141 of females. This total represents a birth rate of 14.72 per thousand of the estimated resident population, compared with the rate of 15.1 for England and Wales as a whole. Sixteen still births were registered, giving a still birth rate of 0.78, compared with the rate of 0.60 for England and Wales.

DEATHS.

The deaths accredited to the area after correction for inward and outward transfers were 227. This represents a crude death rate of 11.07 per thousand of the estimated resident population, compared with the rate of 11.6 for England and Wales as a whole.

In order that the mortality of the district may be properly compared with that for the whole Country it is necessary to eliminate differences caused by variations in the composition of the two populations as regards age and sex. When the crude death rate of the district is adjusted by the areal comparability factor supplied by the Registrar General for this purpose, a death rate of 9.7 is obtained.

The causes of death in the district during the year are set out in Table II.

INFANT MORTALITY.

The deaths of infants under one year of age numbered fifteen (seven males and eight females). The infant mortality rate for the year is 49.7 per thousand live births, compared with that of 53 for the whole of England and Wales.

TABLE II.—CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE DORKING & HORLEY RURAL DISTRICT.

<i>Cause of Death.</i>						<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
2.	Measles	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	—	1
3.	Scarlet Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
5.	Diphtheria	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	2	3
6.	Influenza	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	—	3
7.	Encephalitis Lethargica	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
8.	Cerebro-spinal Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
9.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	1	5
10.	Other Tuberculosis	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	2	2
11.	Syphilis	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	—	1
12.	General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
13.	Cancer, Malignant Disease	.....	.....	.....	.....	19	16	35
14.	Diabetes	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	3	4
15.	Cerebral Haemorrhage	.....	.....	.....	.....	11	8	19
16.	Heart Disease	.....	.....	.....	.....	27	34	61
17.	Aneurysm	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	1	1
18.	Other Circulatory Diseases	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	8	13
19.	Bronchitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	1	3
20.	Pneumonia (all forms)	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	6	13
21.	Other Respiratory Diseases	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	1	1
22.	Peptic Ulcer	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	1	3
23.	Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	1	1
24.	Appendicitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
25.	Cirrhosis of Liver	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
26.	Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	2
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	4
28.	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	4	6
29.	Puerperal Sepsis	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
30.	Other Puerperal Causes	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
31.	Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	3	7
32.	Senility	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	6	9
33.	Suicide	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
34.	Other Violence	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	1	8
35.	Other defined Diseases	.....	.....	.....	.....	9	13	22
36.	Causes ill-defined or unknown	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
	Special Causes (included in No. 35 above)—							
	Smallpox	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
	Poliomyelitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
	Polioencephalitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
	All causes	.....				112	115	227

2.—GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Samples of milk, water and sewage are examined by the Counties Public Health Laboratories. Specimens taken by medical practitioners for bacteriological examination are sent either to the Counties Public

Health Laboratories or to Dr. L. P. Chamberlain, Pathologist to the East Surrey Hospital, Redhill. During the year 1938 the number of such specimens examined was as follows—

For the diagnosis of diphtheria	.....	.....	.....	43
„ „ „ „ tuberculosis	.....	.....	.....	20
„ „ „ „ enteric fever	.....	.....	.....	4

Laboratory examinations required to establish the diagnosis of suspected venereal disease in a communicable stage are arranged for under the Surrey County Council's Venereal Diseases Scheme.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(1) INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—The Reigate Joint Hospital Board maintains a motor ambulance for the removal of such cases.

(2) NON-INFECTIOUS AND ACCIDENT CASES.—By an agreement between the Councils, the western part of the district is covered by the ambulance service of the Dorking Urban District Council. The ambulances are garaged at the Fire Station, Dorking (telephone No. Dorking 2729).

The Horley Division of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade maintains two motor ambulances in Horley for use in the eastern part of the district. (Phone Horley. No number required.)

NURSING ASSOCIATIONS.

The following Nursing Associations maintain nurses for district nursing:—

The Capel, the Holmwood, the Abinger and Wootton, the Okewood Hill and Forest Green, the Betchworth, the Charlwood, the Walton and Headley, the Horley and Burstow and the Salfords District Nursing Associations.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

The Surrey County Council is the authority for Maternity and Child Welfare and for the treatment of Tuberculosis. The following Tables give details of the clinics held in the Rural District.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

<i>Parish and Centre.</i>	<i>Clinic.</i>	<i>Time Held.</i>
ABINGER.		
Ewhurst Village Hall	Infant Welfare	1st and 3rd Thursdays, 2 p.m.
Ockley Village Hall	Infant Welfare	2nd and 4th Mondays, 2 p.m.
Peaslake Old School Room	Infant Welfare	2nd and 4th Mondays, 2 p.m.
Dorking Clinic, Dene Street, Dorking	Infant Welfare	Every Monday and Tues- day, 2 p.m.
	Ante-natal	2nd and 4th Thursdays, 9.30 a.m.
	Dental	2nd and 4th Thursdays, 2 p.m.
BETCHWORTH & BUCKLAND.		
Brockham Village Hall	Infant Welfare	1st and 3rd Fridays, 2 p.m.
Betchworth Village Hall (Voluntary)	Infant Welfare	3rd Tuesday, 2 p.m.
CAPEL.		
Church Room, Capel	Infant Welfare	2nd and 4th Thursdays, 2 p.m.
Ockley Village Hall	Infant Welfare	2nd and 4th Mondays, 2 p.m.
CHARLWOOD.		
Charlwood Parish Hall	Infant Welfare	2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 2 p.m.
Technical Institute, Horley	Infant Welfare	Every Friday, 2 p.m.
	Ante-natal	Every Friday, 9.30 a.m.
HEADLEY.		
Leatherhead Institute	Infant Welfare	Every Friday, 2 p.m.
Walton-on-the-Hill Con- gregational School Room	Infant Welfare	1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 2 p.m.
HOLMWOOD.		
Capel Church Room	Infant Welfare	2nd and 4th Thursdays, 2 p.m.
Dene St. Clinic, Dorking	Infant Welfare	Every Monday and Tues- day, 2 p.m.
Ockley Village Hall	Infant Welfare	2nd and 4th Mondays, 2 p.m.
HORLEY.		
Technical Institute, Horley	Infant Welfare	Every Friday, 2 p.m.
	Ante-natal	Every Friday, 9.30 a.m.
The Parish Hall, Sal- fords	Infant Welfare	2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 2 p.m.
LEIGH & NEWDIGATE.		
St. Mary's Rd., Newdi- gate (Voluntary)	Infant Welfare	4th Tuesday, 2 p.m.
OCKLEY.		
Ockley Village Hall	Infant Welfare	2nd and 4th Mondays, 2 p.m.
WOTTON.		
Dene St. Clinic	Infant Welfare	Every Monday and Tues- day, 2 p.m.
Ockley Village Hall	Infant Welfare	2nd and 4th Mondays, 2 p.m.
Peaslake Old School Room	Infant Welfare	2nd and 4th Mondays, 2 p.m.

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARIES.

<i>Centre.</i>	<i>Time Held.</i>
Dorking Clinic, Dene St., Dorking 49, Farnham Road, Guildford	1st and 3rd Thursdays, 10 a.m. 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesdays, 10 a.m. Every Friday, 10 a.m. 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 5.30 p.m.
1a, Cecil Road, Redhill	2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Thursdays, 2 p.m. 1st Thursday, 5.30 p.m.
S.C.C. Clinic, Waterloo Road, Epsom	1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Tuesdays, 2 p.m. 4th Tuesday, 5.30 p.m.
Technical Institute, Horley	2nd Wednesday, 10 a.m.

The Surrey County Council is also the authority for the provision of treatment for Venereal Diseases. Clinics are held at the East Surrey Hospital, Redhill; the Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford, and at many of the Voluntary Hospitals in the London area.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION CLINICS.

<i>Centre.</i>	<i>Time Held.</i>
Dene Street Clinic, Dorking	1st Wednesday in each month, 10 a.m.
Technical Institute, Horley	1st Wednesday in each month, 2.30 p.m.
S.C.C. Waterloo Road Clinic, Epsom	1st and 3rd Mondays in each month, 10 a.m.
Leatherhead Institute	1st Tuesday in each month, 10 a.m.

HOSPITALS.

The Dorking and Horley Rural District combines with the Borough of Reigate in the formation of a Joint Hospital Board to provide accommodation for cases of infectious disease. The Board's Isolation Hospital is situated at Earlswood and maintains about 45 beds.

Cases of Smallpox occurring in the area are admitted to the Surrey Smallpox Hospital, maintained by the Surrey County Council, and situated at Clandon.

The Horley District Cottage Hospital maintains eleven beds for accident and general medical and surgical cases.

Patients from the district are also admitted to the East Surrey Hospital, Redhill, and to the Dorking & District Hospital, Dorking.

The Surrey County Council is responsible for the provision of institutional treatment for persons suffering from tuberculosis.

3.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

Three Companies supply water to the various parts of the district, namely, the East Surrey Water Company, the Dorking Water Company and the Hurtwood Water Company. During the year premises hitherto dependent on wells were provided with a piped water supply by a small extension of mains in Horley and by a considerable extension in the Forest Green area of the Parish of Abinger.

Periodical examinations of the water supplied by the Companies were made during the year and all reports received were satisfactory. Copies of typical reports are as follows—

DORKING WATER COMPANY.

RESULTS.

<i>Chemical</i>	<i>Parts per 100,000</i>
Appearance	Clear and bright.
Colour	Normal
Odour	Nil
Reaction pH	Neutral 6.7
Free Carbonic Acid	2.9
Electric Conductivity at 20°C	350
Total solids dried at 180°C	23.5
Chlorine in Chlorides	2.1
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	9.5
Hardness : Total	14.0
Temporary	7.5
Permanent	6.5
Nitrogen in Nitrates	0.56
Nitrites	Absent
Free Ammonia	0.0000
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.0000
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0008
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.0000
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 80°F	0.025
Iron	0.005
Zinc, etc.	Absent

Bacteriological

Number of bacteria growing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in one day at 37°C	1
Number of bacteria growing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in two days at 37°C	1
Number of bacteria growing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in three days at 20°C	7
The Bacillus Coli : Present in	— Absent in 100 c.c.
Bacillus Welchii (B. enteritidis sporogenes) Present in	— Absent in 100 c.c.

Report.

This sample is clear and bright and of normal colour. The water is approximately neutral in reaction, of moderate hardness, contains no excess of saline or mineral matter in solution and no metals apart from a negligible trace of iron.

The water is of satisfactory organic and bacterial purity, and is considered pure and wholesome in character, suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

EAST SURREY WATER COMPANY.

RESULTS.

<i>Chemical</i>						<i>Parts per 100,000</i>
Appearance	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Clear and bright
Colour	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Normal
Odour	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Reaction pH	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Neutral 7.4
Free Carbonic acid	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Electric conductivity at 20°C	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	240
Total solids, dried at 180°C	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16.0
Chlorine in Chlorides	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.2
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4.5
Hardness : Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8.0
Temporary	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.5
Permanent	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5.5
Nitrogen in Nitrates	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.40
Nitrogen in Nitrites	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Absent
Free Ammonia	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Albuminoid Nitrogen	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 80°F	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.010
Metals	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Absent

Bacteriological

Number of bacteria growing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in one day at 37°C	.....	.....	.....	0	
Number of bacteria growing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in two days at 37°C	.....	.....	.....	1	
Number of bacteria growing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in three days at 20°C	.....	.....	.....	2	
The bacillus coli : Present in	.....	.....	—	Absent in 100 c.c.	
The bacillus Welchii (B. Enteritidis Sporogenes) Present in				—	Absent in 100 c.c.

Report.

This sample is clear and bright and of normal colour. The water is neutral in reaction, of very moderate hardness, contains no excess of saline or mineral matter in solution, no metals, is of good organic quality, and a high degree of bacterial purity.

It is, therefore, considered pure and wholesome in character, and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

In the parishes of Wotton and Abinger many premises are dependent on local water supplies obtained from springs, wells, and the collection of rain water. Similar conditions occur in the more isolated parts of other parishes. In many cases the water supply thus obtained is wholesome and adequate, in other cases it is not so good.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The following Outfall Works are situated in the District—

BETCHWORTH	The outfall works in connection with this Parish consist of pumping plant, settling tanks and filter beds. The works are situated within the area controlled by the Dorking Urban District Council.
CAPEL	Electrical pumping plant with rising pump main is to be installed at these works in order to cope with sewage in time of storm. About fourteen acres of land have been rented at about 700 yards from the outfall works, and the sewage pumped will be dealt with by broad irrigation.
CHARLWOOD	The system of purification at this farm is carried out by broad irrigation over an area of two and a half acres. As it serves only a small portion of the Parish—less than 150 persons—the area is adequate for the purpose.
HOLMWOOD	These Works comprise settling tanks, contact beds and broad irrigation.
HORLEY	The outfall works in connection with this Parish have undergone complete reconstruction and should come into operation during 1939. New settling tanks, percolating filters, etc., and electrical pumping machinery has been installed. The sewerage system has been extended to Salfords and a pumping station constructed to lift sewage to the main pumping station at Horley. It is hoped that by the end of 1939 a substantial number of properties will have been connected to the main drainage system.
OCKLEY	There are two Outfall Works in this Parish, comprising dousing chambers, settling tanks and filter beds.

SCAVENGING.

House refuse is collected in the following parishes of the Rural District—

BETCHWORTH	Monthly collection is undertaken by contract, and a tip provided by Contractor.
CAPEL	A similar system to the above is in operation.
CHARLWOOD	A monthly collection is carried out by direct labour and the refuse taken to the Horley sewage farm for disposal.
HOLMWOOD	A weekly collection is undertaken by direct labour, and the refuse disposed of at Holmwood Sewage farm.
HORLEY	A weekly collection is carried out in the central parts of Horley, and a fortnightly collection in the remaining parts of the Parish. The refuse is dealt with at the Horley Outfall works.
HEADLEY	Monthly collection is undertaken by contract, and a tip provided by the Contractor.

It is proposed to commence a monthly collection in the parish of Newdigate early in the new year.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

I am indebted to Mr. F. E. Traviss, Chief Sanitary Inspector, for the following details of the work of his department during the year.

INSPECTIONS (INCLUDING RE-INSPECTIONS)					
Dwelling-houses	.....	.....	.....	.....	359
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	.....	.....	.....	.....	503
Slaughter-houses	.....	.....	.....	.....	405
Factories and Workshops	.....	.....	.....	.....	157

BAKEHOUSES, FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are 180 bakehouses, factories and workshops on the Register. All these premises are systematically inspected, and no serious defects were observed during the year.

The following details are obtained from the Register—

Factories (including Factory Laundries)	.....	38
Workshops	.....	124
Bakehouses	.....	18
		<u>180</u>

(1) INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers prosecuted. (4)
Factories with mechanical power	32	—	—
Factories without mechanical power	125	—	—
*Other Premises under the Act	—	—	—
(including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises).			
Total	157	—	—

* Electrical Stations should be reckoned as factories.

(2) DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1)	3	3	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)—				
Insufficient.....	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences	1	—	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)				
Total	4	3	—	—

(3) OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES.

(Section 108 of Act of 1901 ; Section III of Act of 1937.)

No action was necessary.

4.—HOUSING.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1.—*Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:*

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	264
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	359
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	264
(b)	Number of inspections made for this purpose	359
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	1
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	48

II.—Remedy of defects during the year without Service of formal Notices:

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	42
--	----

III.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year:

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—	
(a) By owners	Nil.
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil.

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	2
(2) Numbers of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—	
(a) By owners	2
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil.

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil.

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil.
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil.

IV.—Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding:

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	1
(2) Number of families dwelling therein ...	1
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	12
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	Nil.
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	1
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases...	6

5.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MEAT.

There are eight slaughter-houses in the district, four registered and four licensed. Four hundred and five visits were paid to the premises during the year.

A market is held at Horley every Wednesday, and is regularly visited:

Meat to a total of 121 stone was condemned and voluntarily surrendered during the year. Details are given in Table III.

Fifteen applications for licenses to slaughter animals under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, were received, and all were granted after consideration by the Council.

TABLE III.
CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number Killed (if known)	284	3	273	2515	1309
Number Inspected	150	3	164	549	735
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis—</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Tuberculosis only—</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	1	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	3 heads
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis	0·66	33 $\frac{1}{3}$	—	—	0·40

ADULTERATION OF FOODS, ETC.

The Surrey County Council are the authority for the administration of the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act. I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for the information that one hundred and nineteen samples of milk, one of cream and eleven of other articles were analysed during the year. Nine samples of milk and one of sugar were found to be unsatisfactory, but no prosecutions were undertaken.

6.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

(1) NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Table IV shows the total of the various infectious diseases notified during 1938, classified according to age, together with the number of cases removed to Hospital and the deaths from each disease. Table V shows the incidence of notifiable infectious disease in the various parishes.

SMALLPOX.—No case of smallpox was notified during the year. No primary vaccination or re-vaccination was performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Prevention of Smallpox) Regulations, 1917.

SCARLET FEVER.—Twenty-nine cases of scarlet fever were notified, compared with eight in 1937. The case-rate per thousand of population was 1.41, compared with the rate of 2.41 for England and Wales as a whole.

Of the twenty-nine cases notified, twenty-two were admitted to the Reigate Joint Isolation Hospital for treatment. The remaining seven cases were nursed in their own homes, after it had been ascertained that medical and nursing care was available, that adequate isolation could be provided, and that no trade or business likely to be a medium of spread of infection was being carried on at the premises.

No death was registered as being caused by scarlet fever.

DIPHTHERIA.—One case of diphtheria was notified, compared with thirteen in 1937, giving a case-rate for the year of 0.05 per thousand population, compared with the National rate of 1.58.

The case notified occurred in connection with the outbreak at a children's home in Horley, mentioned in my last report. As mentioned then, three deaths occurred in connection with the outbreak, and although these cases were included in the total of notifications for 1937, the deaths occurred and were registered in 1938. This gives a death rate for the year of 0.15, compared with the rate of 0.07 for the Country as a whole.

Seven other patients were admitted to hospital for observation for the disease, or because they had been found to be carriers of the causative organism. Six of these patients were children from the home mentioned above.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.—Good progress has been made with the Council's scheme for immunisation against diphtheria, and 304 children attending elementary schools or County Council Welfare Clinics received the treatment during the year.

Provision is made under the scheme for the provision of the necessary material for the injections free of charge on request by a medical practitioner for the treatment of any person resident within the district. The material is available in two forms, A.P.T. for the one or two injection methods, or T.A.F. for use in three injections. Application should be

made, accompanied by the name, age and address of the person for whom it is to be used, to the office of the Medical Officer of Health at 14, Waterloo Road, Epsom.

During the coming year it is proposed to continue to hold regular clinics for the treatment at Horley and at Dorking, at which persons of all ages will be able to receive the treatment free of charge. The places and times of these clinics will be found on page 85.

DIPHTHERIA ANTITOXIN.—By arrangement with the chemists mentioned below, diphtheria antitoxin is available on request by medical practitioners for prophylactic or curative purposes for patients not in a position to afford it.

Messrs. Hocken Ltd., 33, Station Road, Redhill ('phone, Redhill 776).
Messrs. Hocken Ltd., Tower Road, Tadworth ('phone, Burgh Heath 138).
Mr. G. Crawford, Station Road, Horley ('phone, Horley 40).
Messrs. Clark & Co., High Street, Dorking ('phone, Dorking 2554).

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.—One case of puerperal pyrexia was notified, giving an incidence rate per thousand total births of 3.14, the similar rate for the whole of England and Wales being 14.42.

The Surrey County Council is the authority for Maternity and Child Welfare, and in its scheme provides for any necessary institutional treatment, or for the obtaining of consultant's opinion, or of special bacteriological examinations.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.—One case was notified. The Surrey County Council, as the Child Welfare authority for the area, make any necessary arrangements for institutional treatment, etc.

TABLE IV.

Disease.	Cases Notified.													Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital.	Deaths.
	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over.	At all ages.		
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	2	4	9	6	3	4	1	—	—	29	22	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	3
Pneumonia	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	5	3	3	16	—	13
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
	3	—	—	2	5	10	6	4	7	7	3	3	50	23	16

TABLE V.

Disease.	Abinger.	Betchworth	Buckland.	Capel.	Charlwood.	Headley	Holmwood	Horley.	Leigh.	Newdigate.	Ockley.	Wotton.	Entire District.
Scarlet Fever	1	3	—	1	2	1	4	12	—	3	1	1	29
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	—	2	—	—	1	—	1	11	—	—	—	1	16
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	2	5	—	1	4	1	5	26	—	3	1	2	50

TUBERCULOSIS.

Particulars of twenty-one new cases of tuberculosis which came to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health during the year are set out in Table VI, together with an analysis of the deaths in the area from this disease during the same period.

The new cases include, in addition to those officially notified, four of patients who came into the district from other areas in which they had already been notified and three of persons who died from tuberculosis without previous notification. Enquiries are made in each case of non-notification to try and ascertain the cause of this omission. Un-notified tuberculous deaths constituted 42% of the total tuberculous deaths.

There were five deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis, representing an annual death rate of 0.24 per thousand of the population, compared with the rate of 0.53 for England and Wales. Two deaths were certified as due to non-pulmonary tuberculosis, the death rate being 0.09 and the corresponding rate for the whole Country 0.10. The total tuberculosis death rate for the district was therefore 0.33 per thousand, compared with the National rate of 0.63.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis engaged in the milk trade, nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

TUBERCULOSIS CARE COMMITTEES.

Two tuberculosis Care Committees exist, whose activities cover the whole of the district. The Dorking and District Care Committee works within the area of the Dorking Tuberculosis Dispensary, and the eastern Parishes are served by the Care Committee formed to work in association with the Redhill Dispensary.

TABLE VI.

AGE PERIOD.				NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
				Pulmonary. M. F.		Non- pulmonary. M. F.		Pulmonary. M. F.		Non- pulmonary. M. F.	
Under 1	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 5	.....	.....	.....	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
5 to 10	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 to 15	.....	.....	.....	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
15 to 20	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 to 25	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
25 to 35	.....	.....	.....	3	1	1	2	—	—	—	1
35 to 45	.....	.....	.....	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
45 to 55	.....	.....	.....	2	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
55 to 65	.....	.....	.....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	.....	.....	.....	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	.....	.....	.....	8	4	3	4	4	1	—	2

